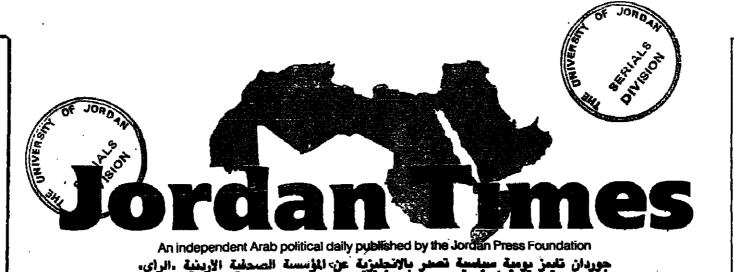
PLO says it mediates in Yemen

AMMAN (R) - A Palestinian official said on Friday Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat was inten-sifying mediation in Yemen to prevent armed confrontation in a silying mediation in Yemen to prevent armed confrontation in a dispute threatening its unity. A crisis between the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP), which ruled the South until union in 1990, and President Ali Abdullah Saleh and his party, the General People's Congress (GPC), has plunged Yemen into its worst crisis since unification. It is over the handling of the merger between the two countries and the two armies have yet to merge. "The PLO's leadership is in constant touch with our Yemeni brothers and intensifying our mediation to see that the dispute is resolved according to the legal framework, constituthe dispute is resolved according to the legal framework, constitutionally and away from violence and confrontation." Ahas Zaki, a Central Committee member of the mainstream PLO movement Fatch, told Reuters Friday. Mr. Zaki, who accompanied Mr. Arafat's mediation visit to Yemen last Friday, said there were signs of a "progress in resolving the crisis between the disputing sides." He did not elaborate. He said the PLO's mediation was prompted by grave concern over the turn of events in the last two weeks



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Volume 18 Number 5460

AMMAN SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1993, JUMADA AL AWAL 29, 1414

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King congratulates Japanese emperor

Ticle:

145 F 101

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Thursday sent a cable to Emperor Akihito of Japan congratulating him on the anniversary of his Accession to the Throne, and wishing him continued good health and happiness and the Japanese people further progress and prosperity.

Prince Charles arrives in Agaba

AQABA (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Prince Charles, the Prince of Wales, arrived here Friday on a two-day private visit during which he will meet with Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor, the Royal Court announced. Prince Charles, who is an old friend of Their Majesties, is on a regional tour of the Middle

Prince Mohammad awards excelling shooters

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein and president of the Jordan Shooting Federation, Friday presented cups to excelling shooters, who took part in the shooting championship. Prince Mohammad also presented the federation's trophy to the Jordan Clothing Company (CJC) for its contribution and support for the shooting championship, organised to mark His Majesty King Hussein's 58th birthday iversary. Prince Mohalifmad presented the Royal Shooting Club's trophy to Nawras Ahmad Qasem, the longest serving staff member in the club. Taking part in the 10-day championship were 108 junior and senior shooters.

Juppe to tour Mideast

PARIS (AFP) — French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe is to make a three-nation visit to the Middle East, taking in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon, later this month, the foreign ministry said Friday. The visit, from Nov. 17 to 19, will enable Juppe to discuss "the situation and trends in the Middle East peace process," foreign ministry deputy spokesman Catherine Colonna said. It will be Mr. Juppe's first visit to the region.

PLO leaders discussed progress in talks

TUNIS (AFP) - The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leadership began a meeting here Friday to discuss problems in implementing the accord on limited Palestinian autonomy in the occupied territories. The session of the PLO Executive Committee, chaired by Yasser Arafat, was due to be followed by a meeting of Mr. Arafat's Fatch Revolutionary Council. The meeting of the 100-member Revolutionary Council of Fatch, the main PLO faction, is the first since the signing of the Israeli-PLO accord in

17 injured in Cairo prison riot

184 m

CAIRO (AFP) - Thirteen Islamic fundamentalists and four policemen were injured in a prison riot in the Mazraat Tora jail of Egyptian capital, police said Thursday. Scuffles broke out as prisoners used sharp objects to prevent guards from entering their cells during a search. An officer was among those injured in the fighting Wednesday. Three prisoners have been killed and around 100 people injured, including almost 60 policemen, in four jail riots since late August. The human rights organisation Amnesty International charged Thursday that the Egyptian government was allowing the systematic and widescale use of torture" of Islamic militants.

Crown Prince calls on PLO to cooperate closer with Jordan

Many issues remain before peace treaty with Israel

AMMAN (Agencies) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has called on the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to cooperate better with

"We are wasting time. We wish Palestinians would cooperate better," Prince Hassan was quoted as saying in interview with the French daily Liberation which was pub-

lished Friday. Prince Hassan was quoted as saying that Jordan was helping train Palestinian police but was not involved in talks about their future role.

The Crown Prince reiterated earlier statements that it was still premature to talk about possible confederation between Jordan and a Palestinian

"We are not going to discuss a confederation with the Gaza and Jericho before even defining what our customs tarrifs will be, what part Jordan will take in administering the territories," Reuter quoted Prince Hassan as telling Liberation. He said Jordan was focusing

on what effects the PLO-Israel agreement would have on the Kingdom and feared that peace, together with Western aid, would boost Israel's economic power and widen the gap with Arab countries.

"How could we consider investing in Israel unless there is a reciprocal movement? Arab countries could be suicidal if they lifted their boycott against Israel without getting anything in return," Prince Hassan was quoted as saying.

In an interview with the Paris-based Radio Orient Thursday, His Majesty King Hussein said many complicated issues need to be tackled before a peace treaty with Israel is signed.

Reaffirming Jordan's commitment to a comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East, the King said "talk about final settlement is premature at this stage." adding that negotiations over the final settlement will begin "not in the so distant future.

King Hussein said that issues that need to be tackled include the Jordanian lands occupied King said: "The present cirby Israel since 1967, which should be returned to Jordanian sovereignty, and water

Asked about obstacles that still impede initial agreements over outstanding problems, the King said: "I do not believe that anything stands in the way provided we first deal with water issues and the problem of 300 square kilometres of Jordanian territories extending from the Dead Sea to the Gulf of Aqaba occupied by Israel."

The King dismissed reports that he was arranging to meet with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and U.S. President Bill Clinton in Washington next week.

"I believe that the Israeli premier will be in Washington on a scheduled visit and I will be here among members of the Jordanian family celebrating my birthday, which means I cannot be in two places at the same time," the King said.

Asked on reports of him meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, the

cumstances do not allow for continued denial or non denial. There are contacts within the framework of the peace process with the purpose of achieving comprehensive and just peace in the area, and we are committed to realising that

Prince Hassan on Wednesday expressed surprise about news that he had initiated an accord setting the stage for peace between Jordan and

"It is new to me, the signing and the meeting," Agence France Press quoted Prince Hassan as telling reporters.

Asked about reports that King Hussein and Mr. Peres met in Jordan last week, Prince Hassan said "there was no way to confirm or deny. The norm in the peace process is that meetings take place."

Asked on whether Jordan was about to sign a peace treaty with Israel, Prince Hassan was quoted as saying: "There is a lot of hard work to do. I told (U.S.) President Bill

Clinton and Minister Peres, the less focusing of the camera, the better.

The King told Radio Orient that the signing of peace treaty will take a long time, and serious efforts are needed to attain that goal.

In reply to a question about the progress on the Israeli-Syrian and Lebanese-Israeli track, the King said that Jordan will not sign a separate peace treaty with Israel as the Kingdom remains committed to a comprehensive settlement.

But he added that the Kingdom was going ahead with its negotiations with regards to the Israeli-Jordanian agenda and other complex issues that are still to be discussed and solved.

On Jerusalem and the holy places, the King said: "I hope that peace will finally come to Jerusalem where sovereignty should be only to God alone,

and no other party.' "I hope that the city will remain symbol for meeting

(Continued on page 10

Rabin says peace talks passed beyond point of no return

WASHINGTON (Agencies)

— Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Friday efforts to implement the peace accord had "passed a point of no return," and urged U.S. help in secret negotiations with Syria, Lebanon and Jordan.

Mr. Rabin, speaking at a news conference with President Bill Clinton, said the PLO must condemn any violations of their accord signed in

Washington Sept. 13. Asked about a recent attack on Jewish settlers, Mr. Clinton also said that PLO leader Yasser Arafat was "duty-bound" to condemn the continuing vio-

"But I'm quite sure that we and the Palestinians have passed a point of no return in our efforts to implement the agreement," Mr. Rabin said.

He said: "We have found that direct and quiet contacts between Israel and its partners in efforts to achieve comprehensive peace (are the) best way to overcome prejudices of

"The less exposed to limelight of the media, the better the chances to achieve agreements," he said, adding that Mr. Clinton and Secretary of State Warren Christopher can "assist this particular mode of negotiations.

He said Israel was ready to continue talks with Syria, Jordan and Lebanon.

Mr. Clinton urged Syria to speak out firmly in favour of peace in the Middle East and said nobody should undermine the Israel-PLO accord. Leaders seeking peace must

speak out clearly and strongly. said Mr. Clinton. He was apparently referring to Syria, which has encouraged

Palestinians opposing the Sept 13 Israel-PLO accord. Mr. Clinton said opponents of the agreement must not be

allowed to derail it. He added that peace between Israel and Syria was vital

if the accord was to succeed. Asked if any progress on the Israel-Syria question had been made at Friday's meeting, Mr. Clinton said: "We discussed some specific things" that the United States "will be exploring during the next several

(Continued on page 10

Islamist, leftist and pan-Arab deputies likely to form 'vocal' parliamentary bloc

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Contrary to public belief, the non-Islamist. non-leftist bloc in Parliament is expected to form a vocal parliamentary group that both the government and the official opposition will have to reckon with, according to analysts.

Alliances based on internal issues are expected to be a new phenomenon in the 12th Parliament when it convenes sometime in the next three weeks. The ability of an estimated 30 deputies forming two "critical" blocs in — Islamic Action Front (IAF) and leftists - in the Lower House to draw independent and tribal support will be a major factor in their ability to force the government to implement their programmes and policies, analysts and commentators sav.

Initial predictions that the 12th Parliament will be dominated by traditional and centrist

politicians have materialised following the apparent decline and leftist and pan-Arab political deputies. Together, the two groups comprise a "critical" bloc of around 30 deputies who are expected to be very vocal on issues pertaining to economic planning, public freedoms and the peace pro-

official, would include not only

"But the crux of the matter is that the non-bloc members, particularly the independents. may play a very important role. Depending on the issue, they may side with the leftists and the IAF," says a former high ranking official. The bloc, says the former

the 16 IAF deputies but independent Islamists, leftist and, in some instances, independent deputies as well. Some deputies who seek Cabinet posts but fail to secure them may become possible critics and opposition members to what-

"Most commentators 'independent' (he or she) cannot have a critical position regarding the peace process, economic planning or other issues — this is just not so," added the former official.

"There are at least 30 highly politicised deputies and they are likely to make the day a lively one in Parliament. No government should take this Parliament for granted. It should work hard to take Parliament's criticisms into consideration when formulating policautioned the former

official. Iyad Kattan, director of the Royal Cultural Centre and moderator of many public political debates, agrees with the former official: "The make-up of Parliament does not mean that there will be agreement with the government on all issues, especially internal issues will be hotly debated by for Contemporary Middle Eastern Study and Research. agrees with Mr. Kattan.

"People voted for their tribe, their clan, their kinsmen in most instances. But since on internal issues in particular there are so many different interests, chances are that these traditionalists will oppose the government on many policies if it did not address the different regional interests," said Dr. Ammawi. "It may be that on foreign affairs they will vote in favour of the government line, but in return they will press for con-

cessions on internal issues." Not all commentators agree that strong bloc voting will be able to oppose or change government policies. "Critical voices in the Lower House have been reduced. Thanks to limitations on the election process and the change in the

Dr. Abla Ammawi, from the will be outvoted "every time," hased French Centre said IAF member Ziad Ahi Ghanimah.

Mr. Abu Ghanimah, a former spokesman for the IAF. believes that the 12th Parliament is comprised of "docile. yes men" who will allow any government to pass its policies with ease. "There will be a maximum of 30 votes of opposition and that is not enough to vote down any government policy or program-mes," Mr. Abu Ghanimah told the Jordan Times.

But Mr. Abu Ghanimah was not the only person who felt that the voices of opposition in Parliament would now be minimalised. "The new Parliament is comprised of mostly yes men and it will be their day," said a spokesman for the Jordanian Democratic Popular Unity Party (JDPP), which along with the Jordan People's

(Continued on page 10

over 9,000 votes that Mr.

Keilani got in this race could

not have all come from this

district since the Muslim

Brotherhood Movement in

1989 had a base support vote

of around 5,000 votes only.

Coupled with the fact that

preliminary calculations indi-

cated that the Islamists did

not increase their strength

but maintained a steady sup-

Libya rejects new U.N. sanctions

TUNIS (Agencies) — Libya people and the official JANA denounced new U.N. sanctions for its refusal to surrender two suspects in the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie but said on Friday it was still urging them to stand

trial in Scotland. "While expressing its displeasure and deep regret (the foreign ministry) reaffirms on the other hand the serious and sincere will of Libya to reach a solution to this artificial crisis as soon as possible," the ministry said in a statement carried by the Libyan News Agency JANA.

It reaffirmed its offer to U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali on Sept. 29 that Libya did not oppose the two suspects standing trial in Scotland and "was ready to urge them to do so.

But it set no date for the two men to submit themselves, saying procedures still had to

be agreed on. The foreign ministry denounced the U.N. Security Council Resolution adopted Thursday, saying it was only aimed at harming the Libyan news agency said it was a deci-sion by "imperialist" Western nations that ran counter to world opinion.

JANA's report pictured the resolution as unjust and did not even mention the possibility of surrendering for trial in the United States or Britain the two men wanted in the 1988 bombing that led to 270 deaths.

The ministry expressed Libya's "deep sorrow that the council has fallen again under the pressure and practices of the United States, Britain and France.

The three countries have adopted a "policy of force, warnings and threats... to create the biggest damage possible to the Libyan Arab people," said the statement, carned by JANA.

The Security Council Resolution, effective Dec. 1 unless Libya complies, would freeze Libyan assets abroad and ban the sale of some oil

(Continued on page 5)

Polls results in Third District reflective of more than just change in political mood and observers say, that the

By Nermeen Murad Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The victory of Islamic Action Front (IAF) candidate Ibrahim Keilani, and subsequently the loss of liberal contender Faris Nabulsi in the Third District. during Monday's Parliamen-tary elections is not, at first glance, an indication of change in the political mood in Amman's most affluent and politicised area. This is so, according to

analysts, because it was a case of an Islamist, Dr. Keilani, replacing another Islamist, Laith Shbeilat, who did not enter the 1993 election race. Both second and third Muslim seat winners are considered liberal candidates on the social agenda. The Christian seat was retained by a pan-Arab leftist and the Circussian seat was also filled by a leftist, although both were won by new faces. These results appear to fall in line with the same formula of the 1989 elections.

The real change, however, is that whereas Mr. Nabulsi clearly represented a Jordanian-Palestinian agenda, Mr. Abu Ragheb, who replaced

him, is considered to be purely focussed on the Jordanian

Although at least Messrs Taher Masri and Ali Abu Ragheb, who succeeded in last Monday's elections, are well accepted as progressive liberals who want to see democracy move forward, the majority of their voters elected them because of their "clear identity" along the Jordanian-Palestinian divide and not because of any difference in their progressive and secular outlooks.

The high number of votes that Mr. Keilani — minus the percentage that the IAF moved to this district from other front enclaves - clearly indicated that the Islamists in the district voted in favour of an Islamic face because they wanted to consolidate a success for the Islamists in this predominantly open con-

This argument is substantiated by the fact that Mr. Nabulsi, who ran on a progressive leftist ticket which watered down the Palestinian-Jordanian divide, did not win despite calls from Islamist renegade politician Mr. Shbeilat to back him.

The fact that Mr. Nabulsi appeared to represent several political - and contradicting ideals, ranging from being a liberal on the social agenda, to a perceived rejectionist on the peace process and calling for a socialist economic programme in a free market electoral district, confused voters and contributed to his loss. Logistical considerations

aside, Mr. Nabulsi, according to analysts, failed to come up with a very clear portraval of one identity at a time when the mood of the voters was to make statements of identity rather than a statement of Prior to the Nov. 8 election

day, predictions placed the three winners and Mr. Nabulsi on almost equal footing since most analysts expected that the Islamists, who felt allegiance to Mr. Shbeilat, would heed his call and support Mr. Nabulsi. Where this analysis failed is that Mr. Nabulsi had originally attracted the votes of the Christians and liberals who wanted to repay him for his stand against segregation of schools but were sent scurrying when a full page newspaper advertisement equat-

ing him with an Islamist like Mr. Shbeilat was published as part of a campaign by "the friends of Mr. Nabulsi." And just like the liberals and Christians opted for someone who would, without ambiguity, stand for and defend their social agenda, the Islamists in the district were not going to vote for a liberal just because he had secured the support of an Islamist. The high number of votes

that Mr. Keilani secured in these elections, most observers believe, strongly indicated that the Islamists were less concerned with the human rights and democracy issues, which Mr. Shbeilat had propagated during his four-year tenure as deputy in the 11th parliament, and cast their votes to the only Islamist face they knew.

Analysts believe the IAF argument that the Islamists were being targetted won the IAF the support of conservative voters who did not necessarily support the Front.

that gave Mr. Keilani the

highest number of votes in

this affluent district. It was

evident, campaign managers

But it was not all Islamist support in the Third District port among their constituents, the increase in their votes in the Third District, most observers maintain, could only have come from moving votes into this district from other districts. Lugistics, therefore, became too powerful an instrument, and only Messrs Masri and Abu Ragheb could get anywhere near the well organised Islamists in ensuring that logistical support was on their side. It is estimated by some observers that the two candidates may have transferred 4,000 votes, between

cies during the campaign. IAF sources concede that they needed to get their foot in the door by winning in this district, which is usually considered the ultimate litmus

them, into their constituen-

test for candidates running on political, rather than clannish or strictly provincial, platforms. However, despite their majority win in this district, the Islamists had to contend

with two other formidable forces which equally needed to prove their presence on the Jordanian political map, i.e. East Jordanian identity and the identity of Jordanians with origins in Palestine. After the Gaza-Jericho

agreement was signed by the Palestine Liberation Órganisation (PLO) and Israel without prior consultation with Jordan, many Jordanians felt that it was time they reasserted their separate political identity and left Palestinian politics to the Palestinians.

The foremost method to prove their separateness was to elect those who followed "clear East Jordanian politics" to the Lower House of Parliament. Mr. Abu Al Ragheb appeared to fit the ticket and his support base in the Third District was, in its majority, clearly East Jorda-

nian. Since Mr. Abu Ragheb received about 5,000 votes in

voters felt little need to stress their separate identity, the jump to over 8,000 votes in 1993 indicates a definite swing in the votes of support from the Jordanian elite in

the Third District. The need to underline this very clear-cut East Jordanian identity hurt Mr. Nabulsi, who is also East Jordanian by definition but carried political ideals of his father, former prime minister Sulaiman Nabulsi, which supported the Palestinian struggle and did

not stress separateness. In fact, Mr. Nabulsi did not only lose among East Bank Jordanians but also among Palestinians, some of whom, basically the moderates, did not agree with some of his slogans, like "no normalisa-

tion with the enemy." Since Mr. Masri, a former prime minister who was born in Nablus, was also in the race for one of this district's three seats, Mr. Nabulsi could not win the moderate "Palestinian vote," which also wanted to stress its presence on the political map

(Continued on page 10

and with a weight equal to

to fully involve Jordan in economic plans 15 Turkish

Quick progress needed on Palestinian-Israeli track

Attaining quick progress on improving the situation on the ground for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza is integral to the success of the peace process. State Department and World Bank officials

Dr. Thomas Miller, director of the Office of Israeli and Arab-Israeli Affairs at the State Department, and Caio Koch-Weser, vice president for the Middle East and North Africa region at the World Bank, reviewed what steps are necessary to ensure success in the peace process during a panel discussion Nov. 10 spon-sored by the Middle East Policy Council.

There is a clock ticking most definitely on the Palestinian track. I think there is a great sensitivity on both the Palestinian and the Israeli sides as to how quickly this clock is ticking," Mr. Miller said.

"I know the sides are deeply, energetically engaged in trying to come to closure....

Mr. Koch-Weser stressed that "without quick and tangible economic, social benefits reaching the Palestinian people there will be no lasting peace."

Reporting on progress thus far, Mr. Koch-Weser said the Palestinians presented an outline for an implementation and coordinating agency during a donors' ad hoc liaison committee meeting in Paris last week. The donors also discussed how to organise their assistance efforts, he reported.

A next step will be the first consultative meeting of the donors, which will take place Dec. 16 in Paris. During this meeting, the World Bank hopes to present an emergency assistance programme for the near term, studies for the medium term development efforts, and a a technical assistance programme for comprehensive institution building, he

"I am confident, if we all

The secret talks in Norway that

produced the Israel-PLO

accord may well have discre-

iteo the "truism" that Miggle

Eastern negotiations require a

third partner, says a top State

A "critical lesson" for Arabs

and Israelis is that it is possible

for them to negotiate face-to-

face "without a third party" and "without a crutch," Daniel

Kurtzer, deputy assistant

secretary of state for Near

Eastern Affairs, said Tuesday.

terreligious Committee for

Peace in the Middle East.

which held a four-day national

interfaith convocation "to cele-

brate and build peace in the

Middle East," according to

factors that led to the break-

through, Mr. Kurtzer outlined

the challenges that face Israeli

and Palestinian leaders as they

implement what he called "the

complicated, complex — and

in some ways highly ambiguous

— declaration of principles"

signed on September 13 at the

Among the most formidable

are the "severely inflated ex-

pectations" on both sides, and

the need for Israelis and

Palestinians to begin taking

In addition to addressing the

organisers.

White House.

He was speaking to the In-

Department official.

tions will be held next year in July (in Gaza and Jericho), one can indeed point to tangible progress on the ground" for the Palestinians, Mr. Koch-

Assistance efforts, he said, will be divided into three phases: An emergency relief and works programme: an emergency assistance programme directed at improving infrastructure; and meeting medium- and long-term invest-

On Palestinian efforts, Mr. Koch-Weser said he is encouraged by "how good the local municipality administrations in the West Bank are and how efficient some of the local power systems and school system

There is implementation capacity at the grassroots level," he said. However, the donor community is concerned 'that the necessary implementation institutions will not be in place in time for this massive effort to succeed."

"We are concerned that there has not been sufficient progress in creating the umbrella organisation... that would develop policy options, coordinate aid at the receiving end, (and) would manage and monitor the implementation of projects," he said.

'We have expressed our concern to the Palestinian delegation. I know that many of the bilateral partners... will pursue this vigorously," he

Mr. Koch-Weser underscored Jordan's role in future discussions on trade relations between the Israelis and the Palestinians. He noted that Jordan has asked the World Bank to investigate how developments in the peace process will affect the Jordanian economy. This study, he said, should lead to a "strong response from the donor community" vis-a-vis Jordan's economic development.

Commenting on this issue, work closely and with great Mr. Miller said "there is cluded.

disproves need for third party

concrete steps towards imple-

mentation of the accord. Mr.

Kurtzer said. The "imple-

mentation gap" has been parti-

cularly acute on the Palestinian

side, which was initially slow in

coming to grips with the need

to create "credible, transpa-

rent" institutions to receive the

aid aiready pledged by the

international community, he

Kurtzer: Israel-PLO accord

U.S. government... in making sure that Jordan is fully involved in the economic development plans throughout

Reviewing the status of the Israeli-Jordanian negotiations, Mr. Miller said "I am confident that the two sides can come to closure in the not-toodistant future."

Turning to the other tracks, Mr. Miller said, "I wish I could report the same degree of success in the Syrian and Lebanese track. Unfortunately cannot.

"You still have a basic gap between the Israeli and Syrian sides over questions of land, security and peace," he said. Asked whether the United States would provide security guarantees on the Golan Heights if Israel and Syria were to reach an agreement, Mr. Miller responded, "I would say that we are a full partner in this process. We will do what is necessary, obviously within our constitutional requirements and in close consultation

with the Hill (Congress)." Commenting on a question regarding Syria's commitment to the peace process, Mr. Miller said, "There is no question in our mind on President Assad's commitment to peace... On the same token, it does trouble us that Syria continues to play host to a number of the rejectionist groups."

On Israel's negotiations with Lebanon, Mr. Miller said he disagrees with those who contend that the Lebanese track is wholly dependent on the Sy-

There are "very significant aspects of the Lebanese track which should be viewed independently," he said. Israel's negotiations with Lebanon focus on security questions and the withdrawal of foreign forces, not on territory, he noted.

"I am confident that with time that track as well can come to closure," he con-

Lebanese talks have been far less productive. But the need for breakthroughs on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks "is no less urgent," Mr. Kurtzer said, adding that the United States is working to stimulate

Another challenge mentioned by Mr. Kurtzer involves "the credibility of commit-ments" made by Israelis and Palestinians, including the PLO's promise to control Palestinian terrorism and Israel's pledge of troop withdrawals and transfer of authority. Even as both sides try to demonstrate their credibility on those and other matters. they will face harsh criticism from their own domestic con-

stituencies — as well as from one another, he warned. Mr. Kurtzer also reiterated the importance of having the rest of the Arab world rise to the challenge implicit in the Israel-PLO accord. "Comprehensiveness is critical" to the

peace process, he said. He singled out the Israeli-Jordanian negotiations as having made "lots of progress" since mid-September, while the Israeli-Syrian and Israelimovement in both.

Overall, the United States will be pursuing three broad goals, Mr. Kurtzer said: to continue to support the peace process until progress becomes truly comprehensive: to promote some "very narrow" business and commercial opportunities for Americans in the Middle East; and to promote the human contacts that can begin to bridge the misunderstandings lying at the root of the Middle East conflict.

During the question-andanswer period, Mr. Kurtzer told the audience that the Clinton administration is talking to Congress about extending the congressional waiver that temporarily lifted the ban on official U.S. dealings with the PLO. Mr. Kurtzer said he was "relatively optimistic" that the extension would be granted before the current waiver expires on January 1.
"All of us," he added.

"would like to see full legislation at some point that does away with the restrictions" on the PLO.

militants sentenced to death

ANKARA (Agencies) - A Turkish military court has sentenced 15 Kurdish separatist militants to death and 14 to life imprisonment, a court source said Friday.

The court, in the southeastern capital city of Diyarbakir, passed verdict on 145 people Thursday after a trial that began in 1981. Only 23 defendants held in prison were in court for the verdict, with all

others at large, the source said. Turkish Television reported that the court of passed prison terms of 20 to 24 years on five minors convicted of belonging to a guerrilla organisation and of murder, attempted murder. raids on villages, and rob-

beries. Thirteen members of the separatist Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) were jailed for 10 to 18 years for helping in robberies, threats, and murders.

Twenty-eight PKK members not charged with any other offence were jailed for five to 10 years, and another eight received shorter sentences of one to five years because of their youth, the television said.

About 700 alleged separatists were originally charged in the case, known as the main PKK trial to distinguish it from numerous others PKK guerrillas.

All were charged with starting and masterminding the banned Marxist PKK, known to have been formed between 1979 and 1980.

In 1984, the group began an armed struggle for a separate Kurdish state in southeastern Turkey. More than 10,200 people have been killed in the insurgency since then.

Over the years, the court has had to retry the case twice after a higher court orgiturned some of the sentences and approved others. Consequently the original number of defendants was reduced to 145.

Turkish penal code still carries the death penalty but no juidicial execution has been carried out for the last 10 years. Military courts apply the penal code in trials of civilians.

The case is one of the rure trials dragging on since martial law was in effect for three years after a 1980 coup. While other military tribunals then set up under martial

law have long been dishanded. The Divarbakir court has been left to pursue the PKK case to its end.

The court source saio defendants were likely to appeal. Parliament deputies from

Turkey's mainly-Kurdish southeast have appealed to the government and separatist re-bels to end bloodshed.

"We, deputies of the region, urge the PKK to end its violence and armed action in the region as well as the government to avoid violence and suppression against democratic and liberal demands." 26 deputies said in a joint statement.

They are from the True Path Party and Social Democrat Populist Party of the ruling coalition, and opposition's Motherland Party, Social Democrat Republican Peoples Party and the fundamentalist Welfare Party.

Their appeal was against an increasingly relentless fight between government forces and the PKK.

The group did not include the 17 Kurdish nationalist deputies of the Democracy Party (DEP), which has antagonised much of the Turkish public because its members have publicly justified PKK attacks and refused to condemn violence.

Fighting on Tajik border; Afghan general returned

Guerrillas in Afghanistan launched overnight attacks on Tajikistan's frontier, while rebels inside the former Soviet republic shelled border troops, a military spokesman said on Friday.

In a separate development, Tajik authorities assisted with the repatriation of an Afghan general who fled into Tajikistan early this week after a battle between rival warlords, a Tajik government spokesman said

The military spokesman said that no Russian or other troops from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) had been killed in the overnight attacks and he had no details on possible guerrilla casual-

Three border posts manned by CIS troops drew heavy machinegun fire from Afghanistan, the spokesman said. The posts face Afghan territory captured this week by forces believed to be particularly hostile to the presence of Russian troops on Tajikistan's border.

On a different section of the rugged frontier, guerrillas operating inside Tajikistan rained 14 artillery shells towards another border guard post but all shells sailed wide of their target, the spokesman

"The guerrilla group was destroyed," he added but could not give any details of

Tajikistan, helped by 25,000 troops from Russia and other CIS countries, has fought a border conflict since early this year against Islamic Tajik rebels and their Afghan Mujahedeen allies.

The Tajik rebels fled into Afghanistan after losing a civil war against ex-communist forces in Tajikistan late last year. Thousands died in that war and thousands of Tajik refugees remain in northern

Foreign diplomats estimate

DUSHANBE (Agencies) that about 5,000 Tajik rebels are under arms in northern Afghanistan. Some Afghan warlords support them but others are cooler toward them. Amir Chogai, who this week captured the garrison town of

Shirhanbanda previously held by warlord Rashid Dostum, is widely seen as sympathetic to the rebel cause whereas General Dostum is not. A Tajik government spokes man said that one of Gen. Dostum's top generals, who fied from Shirhanbanda into

Tajik territory, has been returned to Afghanistan. The spokesman said General Begi's repatriation was a ges-ture of goodwill aimed at speeding up the return of about 95 Afghans who crossed

into Tajik territory with him. Itar-Tass quoted a spokes-man for Russian border guards, Vladimir Maslivets, as saying Tajik authorities handed over Gen. Begi at a meeting with Afghan military officials near the town of Termez in Uzbekistan.

Gen. Begi crossed over the River Pyanzh from Afghanistan on Nov. 6 along with a group of soldiers under a white flag and requested asylum as fighting raged in Afghanistan between rival Mujahedeen

Rabbani to visit Egypt

Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani is to visit Cairo Monday for talks on signing an extradition treaty to send back Egyptian Islamic militants wanted by Egypt, officials in Cairo said Friday. President Hosni Mubarak is

expected to stress that Cairo wants Kabul to ban Egyptian extremists from Afghanistan. The two leaders will review Cairo's request for a treaty under which convicted Islamic militants would be extradited

to Egypt, the officials said. They said Kabul insisted it could not extradite Egyptians living in Afghanistan unless the two sides agreed on a treaty.

Pentagon accepts Czech report of chemicals in Gulf known as "Persian Gulf syn-

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defence Secretary Les Aspin said Wednesday the Pentagon accepts Czech reports that low levels of chemical agents were detected during the Gulf war. But he said there was no evidence that the chemicals were responsible for illnesses reported by U.S. veterans.

Mr. Aspin told reporters inere is no evidence either that the Iragis or the allies used chemical weapons during the conflict.

The Czechs, who were part of the allied coalition, said the chemicals probably resulted from allied bombardment of Iraqi chemical weapons installations.

Mr. Aspin disputed that, saying weather reports show winds were blowing away from troops, thereby calling any potential contamination into question.

"What we have here is another mystery," Mr. Aspin said. "If the detections were valid, we don't know where the agent came from.

Pentagon investigators are accepting Czech reports of chemical traces as valid, even though they could not independently confirm the reports, the secretary said.

However, "a connection to ailments that afflicted our veterans proves elusive," he

Among the 500,000 Americans who saw service in the Gulf, thousands have complained of undiagnosed symptoms that have come to be

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

drome." Smoke fumes, pesticides and radiation from depleted uranium used in munitions have been among the suspected causes The secretary said, however.

that the Pentagon takes veterans' health complaints "very, very seriously," and ordered a panel of experts to search anew for reasons for their ailments. Attempting to counter accusations from some of the

veterans that the Pentagon has been hiding information about the issue, Mr. Aspin said. 'We're putting out every piece of information we have. On Capitol Hill, Representative Roy Rowland, said the Pentagon officials told

members in a closed-door briefing "they could not scientifically relate any of the problems military personnel have now to exposure to mustard gas or nerve gas." "They don't know what

caused the problems the veterans are experiencing," Mr. Rowland said.

The latest Pentagon report deals specifically with the Czech report and does not cover the wide-ranging complaints being made by numerous Gulf war veterans about the possibility of exposure to chemical warfare.

Those veterans, some of whom are fighting for their lives against cancer, say it was Iraqi chemicals, and not a sonic boom, that shattered the northern Saudi Arabian night sky on Jan. 20, 1991.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Israeli left plunges in polls

TEL AVIV (AFP) — The left-wing coalition led by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has taken a dramatic tumble in opinion polls published Friday. The right-wing block would take 60 of the 120 seats in parliament, seven more than it holds today, according to a survey by the Dahaf Institute for the Yediot Aharonot newspaper. Mr. Rabin's Labour Party would lose four of its 44 seats while the right-wing Likud would gain five to hold 37 seats. The left-wing Meretz would drop from 12 seats to 10, while the far-right Tsomet would add four seats to have 12 MPs. In September, after the Palestinian autonomy deal was signed. Dahaf found Labour was steady with 44 seats and Likud credited with 33. However, if elections were held for the premiership, as they will be for the first time in the next general election scheduled for 1996, Mr. Rabin would defeat Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu. Mr. Rabin mustered 39 per cent support compared with 27 per cent for Mr. Netanyahu and 21 per cent for Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan in the telephone survey of 537 Israelis this week.

Zimbabwe establishes ties with Israel

HARARE (R) - Zimbabwe said Friday it had decided to establish full diplomatic relations with Israel, ending years of bitter opposition to the existence of the Jewish state. Zimbabwe Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira said his government was "satisfied" that Israel now respected the rights of Palestinians and wanted to live in peace with its Arab

Lebanese bird hunter killed by mine

TYRE, Lebanon (R) — A Lebanese hunter was killed when he stepped on a landmine planted by Israeli forces in South Lebanon, security sources said Friday. Saeed Mansour, 35, wandered into the mine field while hunting birds on Thursday in Wadi Al Slouqi area where the Israelis had placed the mines to stop guerrilla infiltrations into a "security zone" they occupy in South Lebanon. Last week a Lebanese farmer and his daughter were killed in an explosion on their land bordering the zone.

Cypriot official to visit Israel

NICOSIA (AFP)—Foreign Minister Alecos Michaelides will Tuesday become the first Cypriot minister to visit Israel since the island's independence in 1960. The Foreign Ministry told AFP on Friday that Mr. Michaelides was to hold talks during his three-day visit on Nicosia's decision to appoint an ambassador to Tel Aviv. "There has been a vacuum" in relations between the two eastern Mediterranean countries, the minister told reporters on his return from a visit to Syria on Wednesday. "This vacuum has to be filled," he said, adding that Cyprus sought good relations with all countries of the region. Nicosia, a strong backer of the Palestinian cause, decided to open an embassy in Tel Aviv after the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel signed their autonomy deal in September. Cyprus and Israel established di-plomatic relations in 1961, a year after independence from Britain, and have since built close links in commerce, tourism and telecommunications.

King Hassan names new foreign secretary

RABAT (R) — King Hassan of Morocco has appointed Tayeb Fassi-Fihri as secretary of state or junior minister for foreign affairs and cooperation in a new non-party government, an official source said on Friday. Mrk Fassi-Fihri replaces Ahmad Cherkaoui, 64, who served as secretary of state for 19 years. He will assist Abdul Latif Filali, the minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation in the new government led by Prime Minister Mohammad Karim Lamrani and sworn in on

British development minister to visit Egypt

LONDON (AP) — Overseas Development Minister Lynda aid, the government said Thursday. Ms. Chalker will meet government officials and visit the Cairo wastewater project and an Egyptian banking institute training programme. Both projects are funded by Britain. British aid to Egypt in the 1991-92 fiscal year was £12.4 million (\$18.9 million), the government said.

Bouez to visit London in December

BEIRUT (AFP) — Lebanese Foreign Minister Fares Bonez will travel to London on Dec. 3 for a three-day visit at the invitation of British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd, Foreign Ministry sources said. Mr. Bouez will discuss with British officials the Middle East peace process and bolstering bilateral ties, namely ways of attracting British investment to Lebanon. Lebanon is seeking foreign investments to implement an ambitious 10-year reconstruction plan aimed at getting the country back on its feet. It will be Mr. Bouez's first official visit to Britain although last month the Lebanese foreign minister met Mr. Hurd on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly in New York. Mr. Hurd made a landmark visit to Syria last month to discuss the stalled Syrian-Israeli peace talks. Lebanese-Israeli negotiations are also deadlocked.

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Five Palestinians escape from jail

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) - Five Palestinians broke out of an Israeli army prison south of Hebron in the occupied West Bank overnight, military officials said Friday. Guards only realised the five remand prisoners had gone from Daharia prison, which has 400 inmates, during the morning roll call. An inquiry was launched into how they escaped, but the officials would not say what charges the five were facing.

JORDAN TELEVISION

PROG	RAMME TWO
	Pif Et Herculc
17:41	L'Ecole Des Fans
18:30	Beaumanbeir
19:00	News in French
19:15	Ushuaia
	News in Hebrew
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	The Fanelli Bovs
21:00	Da Beat's On
21:30	Perspective
	News in English
22-20	Fcature Film: "The Jiesaw Man"
	-
	PRAYER TIMES

CHURCHES
St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifieh, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation Tcl. n57440. De la Salle Church Tcl. 661757
Terrusancia Church Tel: 622360 Church of the Annunctation Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543. nian Catholic Church Tcl. Armeni 771331. Armenian Orthodox Church Tcl. 775261 St. Ephraim Church Tcl. 771751. Amman International Church Tcl. 652526. Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: 824328.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.	Ol
It will be cold and partly cloudy wis gradually decreased chances of rais and winds will be northwesterly mo	n:

erate. In Agaba, winds will be norther ly moderate and seas calm. Min./Max. temp. 13 / 22

... 12 / 23 Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 14.5. Aqaba 24. Humidity readings: Amman 82 per cent. Aqaba 45

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY**

Dr. Mohammad Hindi . Dr. Ratib Zaitoun Dr. Nidal Al Dahleh ...
Dr. Bidsam Karadsheh Firas pharmacy
Al Asema pharmacy 661912 778336 637055 623672 636730 n44945 Al Salam pharmacy Yacoub pharmacy 63766 Dr. Mazen Sharairi 248056

ZARQA: ad Al Turajfi alifch oharmacy ... **EMERGENCIES** Food Control Centre 637111

Al Quds Pharmacy

Civil Defence Department 661111 Civil Defence Immediate . 630341 891228 Blood Bank ... Highway Police Traffic Police . . 896390 Public Security Department ... Hotel Complaints Price Complaints 630321 605800 661176 Water and Sewerage 897467 Amman Municipality 787111 Telephone Information (directory assistance) Overseas Calk . 010230 Central Amman Telephone . 623101 Abdali Telephone Repairs Jordan Television ... Radio Jordan 773111 77411 Water Authority ordan Electricity Authority ... 815615 Electric Power

HOSPITALS

Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn... 64281/6 Akileh Maternity, J. Amn... 64241/2 Jabal Amman Maternity 64241/2 Jabal Amman Maternity 642362 Malbar J. Amman 64241/2 Palestine, Shmeisani Shmeisani Hospital ... University Hospital ... Al-Muasher Hospital The Islamic, Abdali ... Italian, Al-Muhajreen Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich . Amal Hospital . ZAROA:

IRBID: Princess Basma Hospital ... (02)275555 Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275-Ibn Al Nafces Hospital (02)247100

Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AIRPORT 845845 667227/ 666127/37 664164/6 . 775111/26 ... 674155 (09)983323

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53201-5, where it should always be verified.

QUEEN ALIA

INTERNATIONAL

APRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

(16	minai 1)
05:39 09:25 09:25 09:25 09:35 09:50	Jakarta, Singapore (RI)
16:45	New York, Amsterdam (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2) **04:20** 10:30 17:35 Vienna (OA) DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

IO:UE	Beirut (F
7:08	Aqaba ('n
i 1:30	Amsterdam, New York	'n
11349	Paris, Research (n.
11:58	Gcocva, Madrid (T
12:65	London (Ē
LZ:45	Cairo	'n
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20:1 3	Kahrsin Daha /	ı,
20:30	Jeddah (Damascus ('n
29:45	Damasons	ê
21:30	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (ŀ
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Other	Flights (Terminal	2)
11:40 13:50 18:35	Beirut ((I) CY OA

HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN
Dep. Assessa 8:00 a.m. every Monday
Arr. Dameteus 5:00 p.m. every Monday
Dep. Densitions 7:30 a.m. every Sunday
Arr. Damston 5:00 p.m. every Monday Dep. Damstons 7:30 a.m. every Sunday Arr. Amustan 5:00 p.m. every Sunday
MARKET PRICES
Upper/lower price in fils per kg.
Apple 760/500
Bagana 680
Banana (Mukammar) 620
Bcans 550 / 350
Cabbage 140 / 90
Carrot 260/200
Cauliflower
Cucumbers (large)
Cucumbers (large)
Eggplant 250 / 179
Gartic
- Grapes 600/400
Grape Fruit 180/100
Guava 450/ 350
Lemon
Marrow (large) 140 / 90
Marrow (small) 260 / 200
Mulukhia 450 / 400
Olives (green) 500/350
Onion (dry) 320 / 220
Onion (green) 280 / 200
Pepper (bot)
Pepper (sweet)
Potato 350/ 250
Tomato
Colored International Part 198



Home News

Profiles of newly-elected members of Parliament

MMAN (J.T.) - Following is the continuation of brief offiles of newly-elected members of the 12th Lower House of irliament made available to the Jordan Times.

Denotes freshman members.

i Shatti (Independent) iqu District

m in Deir Alaa, he obtained his B.A. and er received a post graduate diploma from: rmouk University. He was director of -nir Alaa Finance Department.

ahim Shihdeh (Independent)* lga District

m in Hebron in 1951, he worked as a cher in refugee camps until 1982. He has aw degree and served as a member of the estine National Council.

fich Hararsbeh (Independent)* esh District

rn in Musheirfeh in 1954, he obtained a 4. in economics and business administran from the University of Jordan 1979. He a member of a Jerash development

eiman Salameh (IAF)* ash District

rn in Reimoun, Jerash, in 1949, he duated with a degree in Islamic law from University of Jordan. He is currently suing his M.A. studies in Islamic judici-. He is the president of the IAF branch in ash and a member of its Shoura Council. was the Awqaf Department director in loun and Jerash and recently the assistant seral director for King Abdullah Ben Al ssein Mosque.

hmond Howeimei (Independent) ak District

n in Ghor Al Mazraa in 1956, he ained a law degree from Beirut Arab

nil Eshoush (Independent)2 ak District

COSK TO

m in Ghor al Safi in 1949, he holds a vjihi certificate.

iem Ghzawi (Independent)* ra District

m in Mashare near Irbid in 1947, he ained a law degree from Cairo University 1969. He served as assistant governor of mtha district and administrator at the me Ministry and worked for the Ministry Education.

der Thuheirat (Independent)

rn in Shouna Shamalia in 1942, he reved his secondary education in Irbid and tained a B.A. in history from Damascus iversity in 1963. He worked for the nistry of Education from 1964-1970, he s elected mayor of Shouna Shamalia from

wfiq Kreishan (Independent)* l'an District

rn in Ma'an in 1947. He graduated with a tree in accounting and management from irut Arab University. He worked for dan Petroleum Refinery Company. He s twice elected as the president of Beirut ab University.

ha Al Habahbeh (Independent) l'an District

rn in Shobak in 1944, he obtained an A. in Arabic language. He worked for ogramming at Jordan Television.

Bader Al Riyati (IAF)* Ma'an District

Born in Beir Al Sabee in 1947, he studied at Aqaba schools and graduated from Damascus University with an accounting degree in 1972. He worked at the Jordan Electricity Authority and the Purchases Department. He was a mosque preacher in Aqaba since

Nawaf Al Qadi (Independent) Northern Bedouins

Born in Hosa district in 1923, he served in the Jordanian Armed Forces since 1951 and left the service in 1959. In 1963 he served with the Public Security Department in Hebron. He became director of police departments in Nablus, Ma'an, Salt and Karak. In 1975, he served as assistant to the Public Security Department director. He retired as a brigadier. He was a member of the Senate.

Fawaz Al Zoubi (Independent) * Ramtha District

Born in Ramtha in 1956, he finished school in Ramtha and has worked in business. He was elected mayor of Ramtha twice and is a member of the Queen Alia Fund for Social

Rateb Al Saoud (Independent)2 Tafileh District

Born in Tafileh in 1955, he obtained a B.A. from the University of Jordan, and an M.A. and a doctorate from the University of Southern California. His field of study was education. He worked as a teacher for seven years for the Ministry of Education then at Mu ta University.

Mohammad Njadat (Independent)* Southern Bedouins

Born in Aqaba in 1939, he served in the Armed Forces, and holds an M.S. in military sciences. He retired at the rank of major-general and worked at the office of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Fayad Jarrar (Independent)*

Born in Jenin in 1944, he finished his schooling and served in several posts. He was a member of the 10th Lower House of

Anwar Hadid (Independent) Fourth District

Born in Amman in 1940, he finished his schooling in the capital and in Beirut he worked for the ministry of municipal and rural affairs. He was elected mayor of Queismeh and Jweideh towns in the early

Khaled Ajarmeh (Independent)☆

Born in Madaba 1933 he obtained a B.A. in military science and worked for the Armed Forces and reached the rank of major general before retiring. He was a member of the National Consultative Council.

Abed Musa Al Nahar (Independent) * Fifth District

Born in Wadi Al Seer in 1933, he obtained his diploma in civil engineering from Bel-grade University in 1962. He worked for the Ministry of Public Works. He also worked in Saudi Arabia in the private sector. He has written several articles which were published in local newspapers and magazines.

Thaeb Abdullah Khattab (Independent) * First District, Amman

Born in Amman in 1948, he finished his secondary school in 1966, obtained a B.Sc. in medicine from Cairo University and served at the Royal Medical Services. He obtained a diploma in paediatrics from Great Britain in 1985 and has been in private practice in Hashmi Shamali.

Jordan to mark King's birthday with various celebrations, events

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Sunday will celebrate His Majesty King Hussein's 58 birthday with various public and private sector celebrations around the country.

هكدا حدث القمل

The Jordan News Agency. Petra, said that the festivities coincide with ceremonies marking the success of the parliamentary elections and the country's continued march towards democracy under the King Hussein's reign.

The University of Jordan Thursday held graduation ceremonies for students who had completed seven training courses in technical consultancy services, in the course of celebrations of the King's birthday.

Suleiman Arabiyat awarded diplomas to the 175 graduates and delivered an address outlining Jordan's achievements under King Hussein.

University Vice President

On Sunday, a major procession will be organised by the private and public sectors in Karak and several other ceremonies will be held throughout

the governorate to mark the occasion.

Yarmouk University announced several celebrations to be held on Sunday including art exhibitions and

sports events.

The Jordan University for Women announced plans for its own activities and ceremonies to be held between-Nov. 13 and Nov. 17. These include exhibitions, seminars and lectures.

The Jerash Department of Education has also organised ceremonies and social activities on the anniversary.

Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Bint Al Hussein opened an exhibition of Jordanian stamps Thursday at the Orthodox Club in Amman. The exhibition, organised on the eve of the King's birthday, displayed a large collection of stamps depicting various national occasions. The exhibition was organised in cooperation with the Ministry of Communications and Postal



Abu Nowar stresses no separate peace deal

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will not strike a separate peace deal with Israel and will continue to strive for a comprehensive and just peace, said Information Minister Ma'n Abu Nowar.

Speaking at a meeting Thursday with heads and representatives of Arab news

agencies who covered the Nov. parliamentary elections, the minister said Jordan will never abandon its sister countries. The Jordanian leadership has always been keen on supporting pan-Arab causes and has always exercised a national role reflecting the country's

firm stands based on the ideas

of the Great Arab Revolt. Dr. Abu Nowar said the Arab news agencies can and ought to play a leading role in supporting collective Arab action and deepening public awareness of the Arab World with regard to its causes and towards bridging the gap be-

tween the region's countries. With reference to the elections, he said the government worked diligently to guarantee fair and free elections which were held in a very positive atmosphere enabling Jordanian citizens to exercise their constitutional rights.

2,000 Irbid citizens stage march in protest of Nov. 8 election results

AMMAN (J.T.) — About 2,000 people from Irbid Thursday of anised a peaceful march to contest results of the parliamentary elections in Irbid District, according to a report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily

Marchers, who were led by candidates who lost on Nov. 8, chanted slogans contesting results of the elections and called for holding the officials supervising the elections responsible for what they maintained were inaccurate re-

Before the marchers broke up, Hassan Al Taj, a candidate for the 1993 elections and Hosni Al Shuyab, a former deputy, addressed them. They hailed their "disciplined" protest, saying that it enhances democracy at a time when others are attempting to undermine it.

Dr. Shuyab said: "If they were able to fabricate results of the elections, they would not be able to fabricate your genuine will and convictions.

Some candidates met with Irbid Governor Fayez Al Abbadi and briefed him on the reasons that led them to contest results of the elec-

Mr. Abbadi stressed the integrity of the elections and informed the candidates that the Interior minister is ready to listen to their observations and comments.

He voiced the government's readiness to provide any information of figures to

any candidate who requests

A total of 30 candidates had earlier met at Al Tal family diwan in Irbid to discuss results of the elections. They drafted a statement contesting the outcome of the

The statement reaffirmed the candidates' allegiance to His Majesty King Hussein and their confidence in his fairness, wisdom and integrity. It cited some of the reasons that made them suspicious of the election re-

They also cited what they saw as conflicting numbers of voters and the order in which names of winners were announced. Saying there were different numbers and different orders. In addition, the interior

minister's answer to a question about the delay in announcing results of the Irbid elections, as one of the reasons behind this contesting of result.

They said the minister attributed the delay to a request by some candidates to redo the vote count.

In this respect, the statement noted none of the candidates had made such a

Candidates agreed to send a cable to King Hussein, explaining their position and why they were contesting the results of the Nov. 8 elec-

UNIDO, ESCWA to hold expert meeting on automation, microprocessor controls

AMMAN (J.T.) — The United National Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and the U.N. Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) will hold a meeting on automation and microprocessor controls in the region from Nov. 15 to 17 in Amman.

Hosted by the Faculty of Engineering and Technology of the University of Jordan,

electronics instrumentations and microprocessor controls in the Arab countries. ESCWA and UNIDO, along with the delegates of Arab

countries, will discuss ways and means of enhancing the technical capabilities in the Arab countries to install, operate and maintain the latest automation instrumentations and microprocessor controls.

Participants will also study the necessity and feasibility of establishing regional instrumentation service centre in one of the countries.

They will introduce reports on the domestic level of indust-

Abdoug.

rocessor applications. The reports will assess the design, the meeting will deliberate on the diffusion and operation of development, manufacture, repair and maintenance of microprocessor-based equipment and instrumentation.

> Experts will submit reports on the future projects and cooperation opportunities in the Arab countries. A joint ESCWA/UNIDO

> meeting in 1985 called on both U.N. agencies to assist the countries of the region in establishing a regional centre for design, training and maintnenace of microprocessorbased controls, systems and instrumentations.

The Syrian government recently expressed serious interest to host and support the

centre in order to rationalise the diffusion of microprocessor-based applications and to harmonise their selection, operation and maintenance in the region, including the possibility of preparing standards/barmonised gudelines and specifications.

establishment of a regional

The regional centre would aim at building up the technical capabilities in the region through training trainers and setting up the infrastructure to maintain the instrumentation systems in the region.

It would strive to improve the operation life-cycle of installed systems and to reduce delays and work stoppage of production projects using these systems, thus enhancing the economic productivity of these

as a step in the right direction, a plus for women rial automation and micropdefinitely do so if Ms. Faisal nurseries in government offices for mothers working portant part in the society by WHAT'S GOING ON "proves herself" in the Parchance for Ms. Faisal to

By Rana Husseini Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN — Toujan Faisal was the first woman in Jordan's history to be elected to the Lower House of Parliament and her achievement will be recorded in history books. The Jordan Times asked a random sample of citizens what Ms. Faisal's 1,885 vote victory meant to

Those interviewed generally expressed approval of a woman serving in Parliament and most agreed that now was the time for women to have a say in the legislature. Nidaa Addasi, an em-

ployee at the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) said this is an excellent first step that will benefit the women of this count.y. "She (Ms. Faisal) will represent us in Parliament, and will work on achieving our demands and needs in this

society," said Ms. Addassi. There are some problems facing women that only another woman can understand better than a man

Ms. Addasi believed that the most important issue most women expect Ms. Faisal to argue for is providing in civil service. A private sector employee

said he believes that the role of women in the society is very important, and it was necessary for a woman to make it to the Parliament this year.
"I totally agree with the

idea of a woman in the Parliament.... because women are considered half the society and they should function properly in the society," said Adnan Abdul Rahman. The 63-year-old said it was unfortunate that only one woman succeeded, and he wished to see more women represented in the Lower House.

He added that he expected that the next elections will definitely see more women running and winning because they know that society's view towards women is gradually changing. A communication engineer

at the TCC said he was pleased to see a woman reaching Parliament and that he really did not care which candidate it was as long as it was a woman who was willing to accomplish something for the women of this society. "It is important to see a

woman really taking an im-

sharing in legislation and general issues," said Iyad Innab, director general assistant for governates at the

Women — and men — see Toujan Faisal's gain

Lamia Fakhoury, a private business owner said she was excited about having a woman in the Lower House and said she expects several important issues to be taken up by Ms. Faisal that will make some positive changes in the society.
"Hopefully, she (Ms. Fais-

al) will bring out some impor-tant issues for debate such as the Civil Status Law, inheritance, and the issue of women being regarded as half a voice when testifying. and many more issues that our society ignores," said Ms. Fakhoury (26).

A housewife, who preferred anonymity, said she was glad when she learned of Ms. Faisal's success and wished that more than one woman had won a seat to the legislative body. "Ms. Toujan is going to ask for women's rights in the new Parliament," she said.

The 40-year-old woman said she herself did not vote for a woman this time, but in the next elections she will

liament. But Taher Yousef (26), an

electrician, said he was pessimistic about the idea of having a woman deputy because, he maintained, the previous Parliament without a woman accomplished nothing for the society. "If the deputies in the 1989 Parliament did not work for people's interests. what would a woman deputy achieve that the previous deputies did not.

"I believe Ms. Faisal's win was just sympathy from the people because she is a woman, and peope wanted to guarantee that a woman will reach the Parliament because males are the majority, and I don't think she will have a big role," said Mr. Yousef. Mohammad Ateeiat,

another private sector em-

ployee said it is an excellent

opportunity for women to

prove themselves in Parliament like they did in the ministries in the past. Mr. Ateeiat accused the representatives in the previous Parliament of neglecting their supporters after they became deputies. He said they also did not fulfill most

of their promises to the peo-

prove herself by fulfilling her promises. I hope she keeps on working on the same issues she did in the past, but taking into consideration social and traditional barriers, to prove that she had passed the test, so that in the next elections more women will be encouraged to run for future Parliaments," Mr. Ateeiat Still, according to Nayef

Abu Gharaibeh, a tyre shop owner, "the real question is if the man is lessening women's rights in this society.""The woman exists to serve the man's needs, and to take care of the children who are the nuclie of this society," he added. "If I work and my wife works who is going to take care of the children?" said the father of six.

Rania Abu Mansour, an architect at a private company, said Ms. Faisal's victory is a step forward towards achieving women's rights. But Ms. Abu Mansour questions the strength of having one woman in the Parliament. "Do you think one vote can accomplish something in the Parliament that is manipulated by men?'

VACANCY SENIOR CLERK

EXHIBITIONS

Centre (daily 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.).

A foreign establishment is seeking a qualified candidate to work in its information section.

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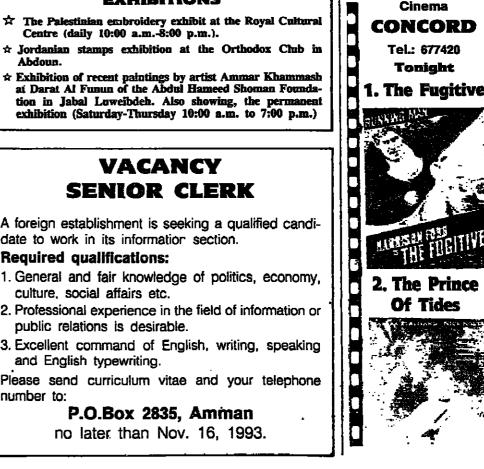
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Jordan Times

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Accusations need to be addressed

THE voters and candidates in this week's parliamentary elections who question the integrity of the results of these elections could be just bad losers. Candidates and their supporters who lose contests in any kind of election tend to develop a natural reflex to doubt the accuracy of the vote counting process. This is particularly so in countries that are still in the process of consolidating the gains and achievements of their fledgling democracies.

On the other hand, there may have been some omissions in conducting the elections on which candidates, who lost their bid for parliamentary representation, may capitalise on to cast doubts about the outcome. As for the possibility that some criminal manipulation was behind some of the voting results, we tend to believe that the government was not responsible for it. His Majesty King Hussein himself assured the country time and again that the general elections will be conducted fairly and freely. No one may take such assurances lightly. If there were in fact some irregularities or discrepencies here and there, the logical conclusion to be drawn from them is the proposition that whereas this country has made great strides in perfecting its democratic process it has yet to attain the degree of perfection that more established democracies have already achieved.

Still, all such accusations whether innocently made or otherwise deserve to be investigated by or contested in Parliament if some concerned candidates choose to do so in accordance with the Constitution. Left unaddressed, the challenges to the vracity of the elections could tarnish the image of the government that conducted them. Jordan celebrated its introduction of democracy with much fanfare both at the domestic as well as on the regional and international levels. We therefore cannot afford to let any finger-pointing at the elections mar the hard-won gains in pluralistic democracy.

In the new Parliament, there will be national figures whom the people of the country would trust to examine the charges against the way the elections were carried out. It should not be too difficult to assemble some of those in the Parliament committee that will be expected to look into allegations presented to it.

Meanwhile, the officially announced results must be regarded as valid and the newly elected Lower House should be convened on this basis. Jordan cannot afford to suspend the natural flow of events in the wake of the elections because some of the candidates feel or think that there were malicious interferences. The King is expected to summon the two chambers of Parliament to session by the first day of December. This orderly parliamentary process cannot be impeded unless and until it is proved beyond a shadow of doubt that in fact there were some prejudicial omissions in the conduct of the elections that may have affected a number of candidates, whether in Irbid, Balqa, or Amman's fifth district.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

IF ISRAEL is truly oriented towards peace with the Palestinians and the other Arabs, why is it holding on to the Jewish settlements in the occupied Arab lands, asked a columnist in Al Ra'i daily. According to U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, Israel is supposed to withdraw its forces from all the lands it had occupied in the 1967 war and, if it is to implement these resolutions, no settlements should stay on Arab territory, said Ahmad Al Misleh. Does Israel believe that the settlements around Jerusalem and the other Arab towns would create climate opportune for a genuine and lasting peace, asked the writer. Israel is wrong and is misled by these ideas which can only provoke the Arabs into continuing the struggle to liberate the whole of Palestine and not only those lands occupied since 1967, added the writer. The Israeli leaders should realise that their presence in Arab land is a kind of colonialism that should end sooner or later, especially as the Zionist movement is a racist movement which spreads the idea that Jews are superior to other races, he added. The Jewish settlements serve as a time bomb ready to explode and destroy the peace process unless Israel complies with the U.N. resolutions and gives up the Arab lands, stressed the writer.

A GUEST columnist in Al Ra'i daily said that the newly elected deputies are now supposed to monitor the government's performance and take steps to correct any wrong, but these deputies have no one to hold them accountable for their own performance except the people of Jordan who elected them for a four-year term in Parliament. Nicola Nasser said that the candidates for he 12th Parliament filled the press and the banners with slogans and promises which were meant only to win the voters favour, but in reality very few of these promises will be ever kept. Indeed, some of the candidates created false hopes in the minds of the electorate and through their deceptive slogans tried to win as many votes as possible for the sake of acquiring a seat in Parliament and not for serving the public interest, added the writer. He suggested the creation of public committees that would monitor the deperi - performance in the coming four yes and pursue their actic..., make public their excesses and expose their wrongdoing to the public.

Jordanian Perspective

By Dr. Musa Keilani

Islamists far from defeated in the poll; Parliament is representative of Kingdom's pluralism

Ever since Jordan's Muslim Brotherhood won 23 seats in the Kingdom's 11th Parliament in elections held in 1989, the international media had been focusing on the "threats" that the movement posed to Jordan and the possibilities of the country being turned into a theocracy.

No doubt, the so-called international media experts on Jordan were indeed encouraged directly and indirectly by some among us, but, in my opinion, those some are a minority.

Now that the Brotherhood, running on an Islamic Action Front (IAF) ticket, lost six of the seats it held in Parliament in Monday's election, the media have gone into another extasy, describing it as a defeat for the "Islamists" of Jordan.

describing it as a defeat for the "Islamists" of Jordan.

First of all, it will be highly representative of the Jordanian masses at large to say that we do resent the portrayal by the media of the IAF and other groups which base their ideologies

on Islam as a potential danger to Jordan.

What is being overlooked by some of the media experts is the fact that these "Islamists" are part and parcel of the Jordanian political system. They did not land in Jordan from outer space to conquer the Kingdom; every one of them is very much from among us, living with us, with no drawing lines between us.

It is a narrow-minded view to categorise them as alien to the Jordanian society. They are one of the strands that make up the Jordanian fibre and are so intricately interwoven with the rest that if they are to be seen separately, then so should all other political forces (depending upon how the foreign pundits of the Jordanian political scene chose to see them).

Those pundits would also be enriching themselves if they looked into the record of the Brotherhood in this country since the 1950s. Off and on Brotherhood members were even described as "the King's men," they had a strong presence sin every phase of the Jordanian society — whether in the armed forces or the diplomatic corps or the civil service or the huisness community.

buisness community.

If indeed the rule of the game is to judge the failure and success of the IAF on the basis of the number of seats it won in the 80-seat Parliament, then one has to go a little deeper into some of the facts and figures related to the elections:

True, the IAF, which fielded 36 candidates, won only 16 seats, compared to the 25 the front expected, and also found itself deprived of the five or six of the 10 independent Islamists whose support it could count on political, economic and social issues on a case-by-case basis.

But a closer look indicates:

— The 16 IAF candidates who won got 94,700 votes out of a total of 300,004 votes netted by the 80 successful candidates; meaning 31 per cent of the votes that went into successfully electing our next Parliament (I am not including the rest of the 821,000 votes cast since they went to candidates who did not make it). That 31 per cent is higher than what the Brotherhood secured in the 1989 elections. The 1993 figure does not include the votes secured by two IAF supporters who won as independents.

— In all major urban population centres, the IAF was the dominant factor and it was IAF candidates who took the distinction of being among the first 10 candidates who got the highest number of votes in the Kingdom.

Whether in Amman's First District, Second District, Third

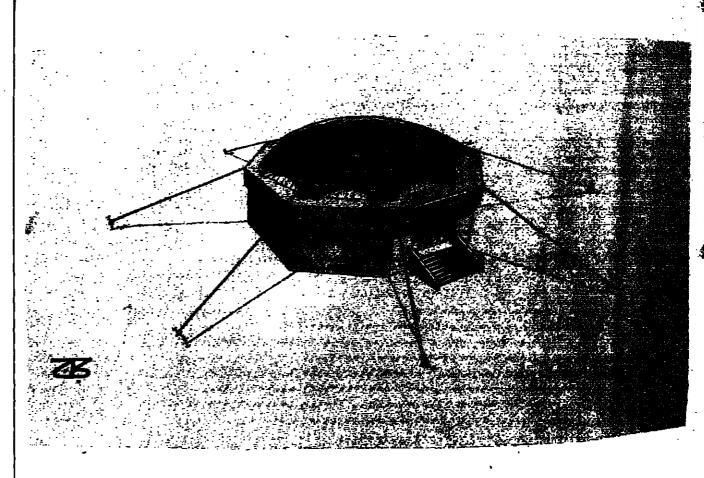
District and fifth District, or in Zarqa or Irbid, it was IAF candidates who led the table of results. There was no case of scrapping through. Their victory was decisive and very telling.

Now, if one wants to judge less than 50 per cent success for

Now, if one wants to judge less than 50 per cent success for the IAF based on the total number of the candidates it fielded, then the element that has to be kept in the background is that the group did not actually want to field as many.

Call it a shortcoming if you will, but the reality was that the list of 36 that the IAF drew up two months ago was highly hypothetical and aimed at satisfying the demand of many of its members to run in the elections while the front took it for granted that the polls were going to be postponed.

The front was caught in its own game when it was announced that the elections would be held in time. It had no choice but to field the 36 candidates of its original list, if only because striking out anyone from the list would have meant an



erosion of support. By extension, it meant fielding candidates whose success was not only in doubt but who could actually split the votes of IAF supporters — and that is one of the key reasons for the dismal performance of the IAF in some

The 16 seats that the IAF has secured in Parliament represent the organisational abilities and manoeuvrability to regroup and redeploy their forces to take the best advantage of the grassroots support it enjoys in the Jordanian electorate.

The most outstanding evidence in support of the IAFs

The most outstanding evidence in support of the IAF's popularity and the strongest counter-argument against those who argue that the Nov. 8 polls sounded the death knell for the "Islamists" is the victory of a front candidate in Amman's Third District — seen by many as the barometer of Jordanian political preferences.

It was not a case of marginal victory for the IAF candidate in the Third District; in fact, the candidate also has the distinction of being the second highest vote-getter in the entire Kingdom.

Shape and colours of Parliament

It stands out very clearly that the 12th Parliament of Jordan is the most representative of the legislative authority we ever had in Jordan, if only because it can reflect very candidly the political forces as well as the tribal blocs and the Palestinian-Jordanian relationship.

The assembly is very balanced, with a majority of middle class and pro-establishment Jordanians.

The new Parliament represents the new pluralism in Jordan; we have 16 from the IAF and 13 others representing eight other political parties — four from the bedouin-led Jordan National Alliance, three from the Al Ahd Party, two from the

Al Yakatha, one from Al Mustakbal, one from Hashd, one

from the Baathist party and a fokmer communist.

To crown the representative status of our 12th Parliament, we have the first woman deputy in the House and I believe judging from the courageous woman's record, she is going to make her presence felt.

It is interesting to note how the left fared. For one thing, all the secretaries-general of four prominent leftist parties lost, if only because they could not present a coherent leftist movement in Jordan and could not offer solutions to the bread and butter issues of Jordanians.

In my view, we should congratulate ourselves for having secured for ourselves a Parliament dominated by a large group of Jordanians who have actively participated in our public life. I believe they will be an asset to all of us.

Politics is not their forte, but their platforms are not any different from the mainstream lines followed by Jordan for decades, and this bodes well for the Middle East peace process since it defuses the political minefield that we face up ahead in our quest for a negotiated settlement with Israel. Indeed, the government faces a tough task ahead with the

new Parliament, if only because there would be a higher demand for Cabinet posts from the new deputies as the price for their vote of confidence. In the face of the limitations that the government will face in meeting those demands, it is only a foregone conclusion deals will be made in terms of upgraded services for the constituents of those deputies who could not offered Cabinet seats.

Needless to say, the net outcome of such deals means an upgrading of services and infrastructure in backward areas—one of the main hopes of the people who cast their precious vote in favour of those who are going to sit under the domed Parliament house for the next four years.

The Week in Print

Press hails success of first woman in elections, deems results as representative of people's will

Reviewed by Elia Nasrallah

In the past week, the Jordanian press tackled the general elections, commenting on the voting and the results, as well as the various issues awaiting the coming Parliament.

Commenting on the election of the first woman in Parliament, a columnist in Al Ra'i said that Jordanian women have for the first time tasted success, following years of frustrations.

The election of a woman to Parliament, Rajaa Abu Ghazaleh said, reflects the public determination to overcome all difficulties and obstacles in order to bring women representatives to the legislative council to work side by side with men in handling public

strairs.

Toujan Faisal's success, she added, would open the door wide for other women in future elections to run for Parliament.

Al Dustour said that the elections reflected the people's will and the Jordanian citizens total orientation towards democracy. The paper said that the elected deputies who are now entrusted with the public confidence and are expected to live up to expectations of the people of Jordan and the country's let Jership. The results of the elections, the paper added, won Jordan further credibility before the world.

ity before the world.

Taher Al Udwan, a col-

umnist in Al Dustour, said the coming Parliament was not expected to present a dramatic performance, like that displayed by the previous one, due to the lack of strong opposition groups

strong opposition groups.

We had hoped to see new blood pumped into the legislative council as we had hoped to see representation of the various ideological, economic, cultural and political trends in the country, he

added.
However, the writer said, the presence of a woman in Parliament could be an incentive to women unions to have their influence on the Parliament's future actions.

A columnist in Al Dustour urged the new deputies to tackle questions of immediate concern to the public. Mohammad Farra noted that the economic situation including the problems of unemployment and poverty, as well as means of promoting agricultural production and ensuring water supplies remain at the top of the list of priorities.

The writer also noted that the compensation of the Jordanian expatriates, returning from Kuwait, should be followed closely by the coming Parliament because any compensation would contribute to the national economy.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily that the government should further develop the one-person, one-vote system by assigning quotas for various governorates and minorities so that representa-

tion would be fairer.
Fahed Fanek said that quotas should be allocated to women, bedouins, Christians and Circassians in each governorate.
Commenting on the elec-

tions results, Sultan Hattab, a columnist in Al Ra'i daily, said that the national parties have not benefitted from the democratic atmosphere and therefore failed to bring their representatives to Parliament

He said that while women have achieved success by penetrating the legislative council with one deputy, the Islamists and the traditional candidates who served in Parliament before lost as a result of the voting last Monday.

Commenting on the have

ongoing attacks on Palestinians by Israeli settlers, a columnist in Al Dustour said that the crimes of the settlers against the Palestinians can only trigger more violence in the occupied Arab lands.

The Arab countries ought

to demand and ensure international protection for the Palestinian people in the face of these atrocities. Should these attacks continue, Mohammad Kawash said, the whole peace process will be undermined.

Boycotting Israel is justified, necessary until peace is attained

By Dr. Musa S. Braizat

The drive to divest the Arabs of the last card they have in their negotiations with Israel is mounting in western quarters.

One cannot fail to see an orchestrated campaign spearheaded by high level political aspirants and Arab-Bashers to further undermine an already weak position of the Arab parties negotiating with Israel the terms of an honorable, just and permanent peace. This is manifested by the repeated calls to lift Arab boycott against Israel.

Israeli apologists describe the boycott as "anachronistic," "illegitimate" and "unjustified," and frequently cite the initiation of the peace process and the signing of the Declaration of Principles as reasons for the need to terminate the Arab economic and political boycott of Israel.

While this reasoning may appear to carry some merit on the surface, in reality it smacks of tremendous disingenuity. The call for the lifting of Arab boycott began in western capitals long before the October-November 1991 Madrid peace conference, which is cited here in a post hoc manner. Furthermore, the advent of the peace process and the signing of the Declaration of Principles have changed little, if at all, the situation on the ground, a situation which led to the emergence of the boycott regime in the first place, as well as to

its continuation.

The Arab countries imposed the boycott against Israel in response to Israel's occupation of Palestine in 1948, and the creation of the Jewish state.

The occupation was compounded by a no less injurious offense to the Arab side. namely the expulsion of hundreds of thousands of refugees: Palestinians. Syrians and Lebanese. The fact that Jewish

leaders deliberately resorted to terror against civilians and unarmed people to affect en masse flight of Palestinians is welldocumented.

Refugee camps in Jordan, Lebanon, the West Bank and Gaza are strongholds of those opposing the latest PLO-Israel deal. Aside from postponing the "discussion" of their fate after three years from the concluding of the interim self-government agreement, there is little of substance for the refugees in the pipeline which would assure the Arab side of an Israeli forthcoming attitude on this extremely vital an issue.

Therefore, neither the Madrid process nor the White House south lane celebrations of October, during which the famous and Historic Arafat-Rabin handshake took place, actually brought anything of relevance to the refugees.

Also, one cannot ignore the fate of Arab Jerusalem over which Israeli spokesmen waste no time in affirming Jewish Sovereignty, latest reports about a softening of the Israeli position notwithstanding.

Having exposed the innor-

Having exposed the incorrectness of the reasoning put forward by Israel's apologists asking for the lifting of the Arab boycott, let us turn to an equally compelling point which this group conveniently chooses to disregard.

The Arab boycott is part and parcel of the whole pictures constituting the state of war between Israel and its Arab antagonists in which, I would hasten to add, the latter have been stripped of most of the leverage which they should maintain in order for them to be able to conduct meaningful and balanced negotiations with

insatiable Israel.

Why should the Arabs be asked to lift the boycott, which

in Washin contributed this Jordan Times.

is, after all, one of their effective sources of leverage over Israel, without any quid pro quo? For these negotiations to succeed, the principles of reciprocity, symmetry and fair-

ness must be upheld.
Finally, and as a reminder for those who talk of the illegitimacy of the Arab boycott, it, may be worthwhile here to recall that the Arabs were not the first to introduce the notion of boycott in the modern history of the Middle East and within the context of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

When Arab delegates were debating the issue within the framework of the League of Arab States, in the aftermath of the Israeli occupation of Arab territories in 1948 and the expulsion of about half of the Palestinian people, they were very much influenced by the facts that Zionist leaders had earlier on introduced this concept by ordering a boycott of Palestinian labour and produce in the Jewish colonies in Palestine, in the 1920s and 1930s.

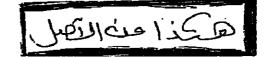
Only land purchase and money-lending to Palestinian farmers were sanctioned by the then local Jewish authorities which were acting as quasi government agencies on behalf of the World Zionist Organisation, the mother of the state of

Israel.

Therefore, the Arab boycott is not only legitimate and justified but necessary as long as the conditions that led to its imposition in the first place have not been satisfactorily re-

The writer was a member of the Jordanian delegation to the peace talks. He is now a fellow visitor at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C. He contributed this article to the Jordan Times.





Journalist's tenet: 'We've just got to go on covering wars'

By Robert Fisk

met Alexandra Tuttle in Sarajevo this summer. A bubbling Francophile American, she travelled with the French press, flak jacket dangling nonchalantly from her shoulder as she set off from the Holiday Inn each morning for the familiar, dangerous routine of reporting on the front lines and

Gregarious would be the word that comes to mind. Alexandra was a contributor to the Wall Street Journal, for whom she had written more than 70 first-rate, analytical stories. We had a silly row one night when she claimed that Iran was a threat to "Saudi democracy", and I tried to convince her that, for all its sins, Iran at least had a parliament while Saudi Arabia, for all its money, had none.

But she was generous enough to take my English cynicism in good heart. She wanted to know about my own home base of Beirut, about why I thought the Gulf war was a tragedy. My answer - that all wars are a tragedy because wars are primarily about death - met with her total agreement. Then I left for northern Bosnia and she returned to her home in Paris, where she kept a much-talked about dog called George.

A survivor, I thought. We journalists judge people like that these days. Alexandra Tuttle would survive.

So when I flew into Beirut from Cairo a few weeks ago, it was hard to believe the lonely little paragraph I read in the Lebanese papers. Alexandra Tuttle had been killed in Sukhumi, burnt to death in a military aircraft that had been hit by a ground-to-air missile.

Impossible. Survivors don't get killed. But true. Alexandra, one of her close friends told me, had boarded the flight in Tbilisi on Sept. 22, anxious to conduct a second interview with Eduard Shevardnadze who was still holding out in Sukhumi. A German photographer on the flight had second thoughts and disembarked before takeroff. urging Alexandra to do the same. She refused.

She had not even told her news desk of her plans; so she lay for five days in a grave near Sukhumi airport before her employers, and her parents in Maryland, realised she was missing. The plane had broken in two when the Abkhazian missile hit it. Everyone in the front half died; Alexandra was in the cockpit.

The airport was under artillery fire at the time, but someone found her shredded U.S. passport and a crumpled photograph of her dog, George. With permission from the victorious Abkhazians, her family and friends are still hoping to repatriate her remains, if they can find her grave.

Even if we have never met those of our colleagues who pay so terrible a price for their vocation, the statistics of journalistic fatalities are now truly shocking. In 1992, 61 of all nationalities were shot, bombed or knifed to death --the largest number in Turkey. which always heads Index on Censorship's monthly list of countries in which journalists

are murdered. In the past 21 months, 37 journalists have died in the former Yugoslavia alone, many killed deliberately by snipers. David Kaplan, of ABC News, was shot dead near Sarajevo airport on Aug. 13, 1992. The bullet entered his car between the T and V of the "TV" sign pasted on the side; he was not wearing a flak jacket - which is why we all now clank around in 10kg vests and helmets.

Time was, we fondly be-lieved, when we could claim some immunity: neutral observers of the truth, respected by all sides. Death would be generous and pass us by.

Maybe it started going wrong in Lebanon when jour-nalists became the prey of kidnappers, who did not care about the press. Eighteen journalists died there, many of whom I knew. Clark Todd of Canadian Television, killed in the Chouf mountain war in 1983, wrote a last message of love to his family on a pillow case as he lay dying in the village of Kfar Matta. Robert Pfeffer, a German magazine reporter, was shot dead in front of his wife by Palestinian gunmen in Beirut. Toufiq Ghazawi and Bahij Metni, a CBS Lebanese crew, were torn to pieces by an Israeli tank shell near Kfar Melki after surviving 10 years of war.

Survivors do die, which is why many of us have developed weird habits. Martin Bell of the BBC wears mismatching socks in Bosnia. I try to avoid leaving for a danger-

that could be remembered as "last words". Never, never leave for a battle with comments such as "Don't worry, I'll be OK," or "I hope the desk knows the risks we're taking". We all know we may not be OK, and we all suspect (sometimes rightly) that our news desks do not know the

The younger we are, the more exposed we are. The first time I drove into Israeli tank fire in southern Lebanon in 1978 - in those days we had no flak jackets - I was so frightened that I started saying crazy things to myself like "Death can't be that bad", or "Well, at least if I die, I'll have another story tomorrow which won't be so risky."

I have often wondered whether the first journalists to die in Croatia, then in Bosnia. did so largely because they were young and inexperienced; because many of them knew only the Hollywood variety of war, where the stars always survive the death of their characters. There is a little Somme waiting for all innocent jour-

In northern Kurdistan, a young American freelance on his very first war assignment was murdered by Iraqi soldiers. Gad Gross was a driven, brave young man who turned up briefly in Beirut before the Gulf war embraced the slaughter of the Kurds, then set off for the killing fields of northern Iraq in the hope of selling his pictures to an American news magazine. He was shot dead after screaming in rage at the Iraqi soldiers who had just murdered his Kurdish guide.

How should editors react? After three Reuters and an Associated Press journalist were killed by mobs in Mogadishu, most reporters pulled out of Somalia. A few weeks ago the last American journalist left, to the relief of the blundering U.S. forces. In some news rooms, thankfully not all, there are those who question the worth of sending reporters to Bosnia.

But if we journalists have any reasons for our existence. the least must be our ability to report history as it happens. And history is dangerous. Beirut, Bosnia, Georgia. And Moscow: the siege of the White House killed Rory Peck, A British cameraman working for German television. I remember years ago how Sean McBride suggested that journalists must have special status, special protection. The Red Cross once mooted a white badge for war correspon-

Yet we are not, and should not be, a special breed. Journalists have been dying for decades. One of the first foreign correspondents on the Times was hacked to death on the banks of the Nile by followers of the Mahdi, while trying to carry to Cairo a scoop on General Gordon's defiance upstream. In World War II, journalists accepted the death of their colleagues with sadness but inevitability: an AP reporter who dropped into the Balkans with the U.S. Special Forces was put in front of a German firing squad with the American soldiers, despite pleas for clemency.

As our lives become steadily more dangerous - and the wars of Eastern Europe become ever more savage --- we should rage against the deaths of our colleagues. And we should demand every protection. But the necessity of recording human suffering on an epic scale is worth the risk. And if editors came to feel otherwise, they would be providing a miserable memorial to

those who have died. Put painfully, we've just got to go on covering wars. And those are not last words — The Independent.



Alexandra Tuttle died when the Abkhazians shot down the plane taking her to meet the besieged Shevardnadze (File photo)

orld water shortages spreading

By David Briscoe The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — People from Los Angeles to Beijing to Riyadh are having to look further and further away for fresh water, and a new report says water scarcity is a spreading global problem.

Proposals to tow around

icebergs from Antarctica or to fill giant plastic bladders with lake water will not be enough to quench the world's thirst, said Bob Engelman, co-author of the Population Action International Report. Other ideas include building desalination plants or international water

"Expense keeps getting in the way," Mr. Engelman said in an interview.

"The bottom line of this is simply that the rate of popula-tion growth in countries ex-

By 2025, one out of three tries with inadequate fresh wa-ter supplies, said the report

water supplies." The current ratio is about

The report is based on projections of population growth for 149 countries, combined with known data on renewable fresh water supplies. The country with the biggest supply is Iceland, with 666,667 cubic metres of water available per

(Continued from page 1)

equipment. It expands an air and arms embargo in effect since April 1992.

However, it falls short of doing what most critics say is the only way to force Libya to turn over the suspects: banning the sale of Libyan oil. Libya's economy relies on

daily oil exports of 1.5 million barrels that generate 59 billion a year in revenue. The new resolution, adopted

11-0 vote with four abstentions, was pushed through by the United States, Britain and France. Britain and the United States insist the two men be tried in one of their countries for the bombing of the American jumbo jet over Lockerbie. Scotland. France wants to question four other Libyans in the 1989 bombing of a French jet that killed 171 people.

periencing water scarcity is vastly outpacing population growth of the world as a whole," he said.

people will be living in coun-"sustaining water: Population and the future of renewable

one out of 15.

Libya rejects sanctions

European nations heavily dependent on Libyan oil blocked a stronger resolution imposing a ban on oil exports. After the vote, a group cal-

led families of Pan Am 103/ Lockerbie said in a statement that only an oil embargo would make Libya back down. JANA said world opinion

shares the view that the punitive resolution is unfair. It said Libya received backing for lifting even existing sanctions from India, China and other countries and from organisations including the Arab League, the Non-Aligned Movement and Others.

Esmat Abdul Meguid. secretary-general of the Arab League, issued a statement Thursday regretting the new sanctions and saying he had hoped a path would be left open for new contacts to resolve the dispute.

person per year. The lowest is in Djibouti with 23 cubic

Djibouti and 19 other countries are listed as "waterscarce", with less than 1,000 cubic metres per person. That's not enough to sustain human health or economic development, scientists say.

Eight more countries have what scientist call "water-stressed" conditions, with less than 1,700 cubic metres per person. Over the next three decades, between 46 and 52 countries will be either "water-stressed"

or "water-scarce", the report "There are no substitutes as human populations grow. there's less renewable water

for each person," said Mr. Engelman. The result is that countries are either forced to limit the use of water or deal with the problem of disease as people turn to untreated water.

The report noted that some countries will suffer much more than others. Britain and Iran, for example, now have about equal populations and accessible water supplies, but the projection shows Iran will have about one-half the available water per person in 2025 while Britain's per capita supplies will dwindle by only about 5 per cent.

Even in the United States, which has abundant fresh water supplies nationally, regional demands often exceed supply, the report said. It cited efforts by water-poor urban areas in California to draw from water-rich areas around the state.

says signs of scarcity and con-tamination have been emerging in recent years.

Far worse, though, are conditions in Saudi Arabia, which already is on the "water scarce" lists and depends almost entirely on water that has taken centuries to accumulate deep within the ground.

"Estimates of the lifespan of Saudi Water reserves vary widely, with one estimate suggesting they could run out early in the next century," the report said.

In Mexico City, the report said, demand for water and sanitation services already exceeds supply, with pumping of water causing shifting and sub-siding land, falling water tables and a deteriorating water

supply. In China, it said, more than 200 major cities already lack adequate water. Water tables under Beijing are dropping three to six feet a year, and the city is looking for new supplies over 1,000 kilometres away.

American Jewish peace activists say peace in the region should be equitable

By Ica Wahbeh Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Two American Jewish peace activists who were in Amman two days ago said there can be no peace in the region without granting the Palestinians their rights.

The two, Ira Grupper, national cochair of the New Jewish Agenda, and Susan Kahn, a member of the organisation, were on a visit to the region at the invitation of several individuals and orga-The New Jewish Agenda

was founded in 1980 by "people from the United States and Canada." The organisation issued that same year two resolutions: one calling for a state of Palestine alongside Israel, with secured boundaries for both, and the second asking for recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

"Needless to describe the reaction of the Jewish community in the U.S. and Canada," said Mr. Grupper. As the organisation

adopted more and more causes, it also made itself "The organisation has

taken stands in support of peace and democracy in Central America. We have undertaken to deal concretely with the problem between the African-American and the Jewish communities in the U.S.," said Mr. Grupper, Such stands are not destined to have a long life. So "for economic and political reasons we were forced to close our national office in New York," said Mr. Grup-

Chapters of the organisation still function in different other cities and in Canada. Mr. Grupper and Ms. Kahn, in the region on a mission of peace were in Israel before coming to Jordan. They had been called there by Yesh G'vul, literary translating into "there is a limit," an organisation of Israeli army reservists who had refused to pick up arms 'against their Palestinian sisters and brothers."

Another invitation had come from the society of St. Yves, a Catholic human rights monitoring organisation based in Jerusalem and several Palestinian organisa-

The reason Yesh G'vul was anxious for us to come is because there is confusion about the peace process. The peace movement in the U.S. has to be made aware of the latest developments in the occupied areas and in Israel proper," said Mr. Grupper, adding that the Israeli government actions subsequent to the signing of the PLO-Israel deal on Sept. 13 "are not in concord with the letter and the spirit of the accord."

To support his argument,

Mr. Grupper mentioned the building of 70,000 housing units in Jerusalem.

Other meetings were with members of the Knesset (Israeli parliament), the representative of the press office of the foreign ministry, Palestinian and Jewish peace organisations and representatives of the settlers in one right wing community.

In Jordan, they attended various meetings scheduled for them and met Omar Khatib, charge d'affaires at the Palestinian embassy, Asa'ad Abdul Rahman, on the board of directors of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation and member of the Palestine National Council (PNC), and members of the Jordanian peace delegation Marwan Dudin, Taiseer Aruri and Jawad Anani.

"Jordanians are warm, understanding and politically cognizant of the significance the peace process will have not only in Palestine but also in Syria, Jordan, Israel," said Mr. Grupper.

His organisation, which two and a half years ago numbered 6,000 members, faces problems that "reflect the dilemma of the progressive movement in the U.S. and the world."

"We were vilified by the Jewish establishment over many years," said Mr. Grupper, who also explains the personal reasons behind his visit to the region.

"I want to make a dif-ferentiation between the feeling of guilt for what is being done to Palestinians and the understanding that I, as an individual, am responsible for my acts. I do not believe in guilt, but I believe in mob psycology. I do not feel very good about what is happen-

ing to my Palestinian

brothers and sisters. While finding the visits fruitful, Mr. Grupper acknowledges that after meeting with all the people they have, the feeling is that the majority favours peaces, but is also wary of how words on paper will be translated in times of

Leaving Amman for Paris, the two peace messangers are to report on their activities to "Jewish and non-Jewish peace forces.'

Back home, they are scheduled to appear before the media in "a couple of places" and might organise a national tour to speak about "what we have observed and what we feel about the peace process." At the same time, the two activists will be trying to facilitate meetings of Arab and Jewish peace organisa-

The reason for the existence of their organisation is that "there was for too long an old Jewish agenda which conciliated sexism and racism and was not in pursuit of social justice.'

time, and will a change in

article two be able to change

"The whole idea (of amend-

ing article two) looks antago-

nistic to personal freedom and

choice, to women's rights, to

the rights of the most educated

in society, to private enterprise

and to the foreign commun-

ity," said Shafeeq Ghabra,

another associate professor of

Both Islamists and liberals

this contradiction?

Islamists, liberals resume debate in Kuwait

By William Maclean Reuter

KUWAIT — Kuwaiti Islamists and liberals, scarcely a year after they agreed a truce, are again vigorously promoting their conflicting models for

Kuwaiti society. The robust exchanges, in the press, in public and in parliament, pick up on the political contest they tacitly suspended last year in the interests of a larger cause — the restoration of parliamentary democracy

after a six-year break. The focus of the revived debate between the Islamists and the liberals — a diverse collection of leftists, Arab nationalists and democrats -is an Islamist proposal to amend the constitution to make Islam the sole source of

Article two of the constitution now says Islam is "a main" - thus not the only - source of legislation.

Other Islamist demands include a ban on bank interest and some commissions in trade deals, restrictions on the portrayal of women in the media and a public authority to encourage strict Muslim be-

The debate has implications for wide-ranging administrative reforms taking place in education, the economy and the bloated state bureaucracy. The government says the reforms will create a more vital

and productive society.

It may eventually have an equally profound effect on parliament and the daily life of Kuwait's 1.5 million people.

Democrats elsewhere in the Gulf are watching Kuwait's closely in the hope that, if it succeeds, other conservative Gulf rulers will follow suit.

As elsewhere in the Gulf alcohol is banned and many forms of live entertainment are discouraged. But an outspoken parlia-

ment, press and discussion groups known as diwaniyehs have created lively intellectual traditions and women hold senior business and government jobs. Women may also drive, for example, whereas in Saudi Arabia they may not. The Islamist-liberal debate uses strong language.

"This group of ... extremists, this limited group of (liberal) columnists — their scorpions of hatred are not released and

their winds of malice do not blow unless they sniff the scent of Islam stirred by the activity of its sons and promoters, Islamist parliamentarian Khaled Al Adwa wrote in a newspaper. "(They are) a very limited

group that the Kuwaiti Muslim people recognise, know well and whose danger they "Muslim people will always

vote for Islamic voices and discard other ideologies," said Abdulrazak Al Shayeji, member of the hardline Salaf (ancestors) Islamic group. He was quoted as saying the

United States, which led the alliance that ousted Iraqi troops from Kuwait in 1991. was busy working against a worldwide Islamic revival.

Ahmad Baghdadi, an associate professor of political scientist at Kuwait University, stated a liberal view: "We know our society. Kuwait has never been a hardline state."

will be a contradictory society," he told the English-language Arab Times newspaper. "We will be able to tune into

a state religious channel and MTV (a U.S. satellite TV

music channel) at the same

"We have been and always

set aside their differences to campaign for the restoration of parliament after the Gulf war. The opposition dominated

political science.

elections in October 1992 and the Islamists are the largest and most cohesive component in the opposition. A core of 15 Islamist mem-

bers can call on an equal number of centrists or independents whose constituencies are fluid enough for them to vote for the Islamists when Islam is an issue.

Liberal columnist Abdullatif Al Duwaij said one aim of liberal Kuwaitis, who identify with 10 to 15 members, was to build enough popular backing to enable them to contest the 1996 parliamentary elections

"with full force."

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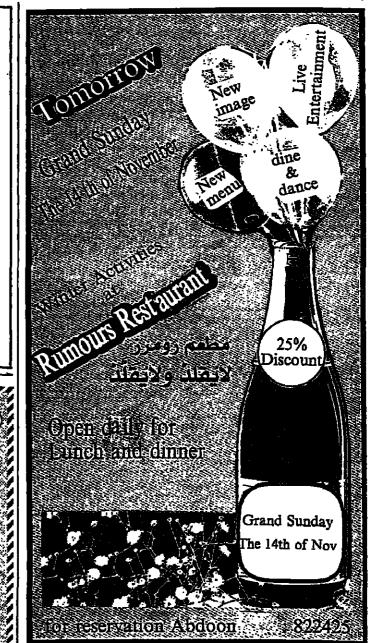
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The delegation of 35 businessmen from 26 major suppliers in Taiwan are in Amman now, and will be pleased to receive any Jordanian businessman concerned today, Saturday the 13th of November at the Ballroom of the Intercontinental Hotel from 9:00 a.m. till 5:00 p.m. so, don't miss this golden opportunity to It also noted much of the county's dependence on the deep aquifer that runs from South Dakota to Texas and



Dragons' seen headed for record 1993 borrowing on capital markets

PARIS (AFP) - Asia has raised more funds on world capital markets than Latin America so far this year and dynamic Asian economies (DAES) appear headed for record external

borrowing in 1993, the OECD has said.
Eastern Asia raised a total of \$17.9 billion against Latin America's \$17.7 billion, with China accounting 4.6 billion or one-quarter of the total, according to provisional data for the eight months to August released the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Commercial borrowing by eastern Asian residents was up by to per cent over the year-earlier level of \$12.3 billion and was close to the 1992 total of \$19.2 billion according to the OECD's latest report on financial market trends.

Analysts said the sharply increased recourse to private finance by authorities and corporations in both regions was clearly linked with their strong growth performance.

Overall, borrowing facilities for developing countries as a

group rose by nearly one-third year-on-year to \$43 billion — compared with annual totals of about \$47 billion both in 1991

But while key Latin American countries, slowly emerging from the debt emergency of the 1980s, relied heavily on the securities markets, including the sale of a significant amount of equity to foreign investors, international funding for eastern Asia continued to be based mainly on syndicated bank lending, the report said.

The region secured \$10 billion worth of bank loans, a 39 per cent year-on-year increase, and was "set to exceed by a comfortable margin" the 1992 total amount of \$11.9 billion the

The survey stressed that lending to Chinese residents, which became the region's biggest borrowers last year, had been "particularly brisk, with credits for \$2.8 billion being completed by end-August."

It said China had become an increasingly active borrower in

response to its rapid economic expansion "after an interrup-tion in the wake of the political events of 1989."

Lending to China by banks reporting to the Basle-based Bank for International Settlements (BIS), which monitors international bank lending, rose by about \$8 billion in the two years to March 1993, raising the total outstanding to \$38.9 billion by end-March, OECD analysts said.

They noted that although spreads for Chinese borrowers remained fairly wide — some 100 basis points — governmentowned finance institutions, public enterprises including airlines, and utilities had brought a large number of transactions to the syndicated market in recent months.

As for the fast-growing DAEs — Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan and Thailand — their syndicated borrowing topped \$6 billion, up by 46 per cent over the level recorded as of end-August last year.

This included credits totalling \$1.3 billion for Thailand, \$1.4 billion for South Korea, \$1.3 billion for Hong Kong and \$1.1

billion for Malaysia.

"Taking account of a large volume of loans in the pipeline, this year's DAE borrowing is likely to attain record levels,"

the report said. Indonesia, another major borrower, secured loans worth \$1.1 billion during the eight-month period.

Asian borrowers at the same time doubled their recourse to the securities markets, completing bond issues totalling just under \$7 billion by August.

South Korean private companies and public finance institutions remained active in this market, raising about \$2.3 billion, while China's total of about \$1.8 billion was "the largest ever

The Chinese raised 80 billion yen in the yen markets, and secured the balance through Eurodollar and Yankee bond

Thailand also boosted its operations in the securities

markets during the period, raising \$800 million against \$700 million in 1992 as a whole, the OECD report noted.

The report pointed out that private investors increased the amount they gave or lent to the Third World by a half last year while the rich world's governments cut back slightly on aid.
The Paris-based think tank said the net flow of resources to developing countries from the OECD's 22 wealthy member states rose 23 per cent in 1992 from 1991 to a total of \$165.5

Private money outstripped public money for the first time as private donors, investors and lenders, especially international banks, pushed \$94.0 billion into developing countries, 51 per cent more than the year before.

By contrast, official finance fell to \$68.1 billion from \$70.1 billion in 1991, including a cutback in aid to \$54.9 billion from

But the OECD said the increased funds benefited only a relatively small group of more advanced developing countries in South East Asia and Latin America and some big countries like China, India and Indonesia. Very poor nations, especially in Africa, got little.

Funds for Africa south of the Sahara actually fell in 1992 by some \$4 billion to under \$15 billion and private investors, overall, were actually taking money out rather than putting it

The OECD said the surge in private financing was dominated by a tripling in bank lending to \$37.7 billion in 1992. It said this meant an overall increase in the proportion of money going into the Third World that would have to be paid back. But in general the funds were put into productive ventures in countries with sustainable debt burdens and so this should not create a major problem.

"Indeed, in many cases, the growth of private flows can be seen as a seal of approval from the international financial community on the reform efforts of the countries attracting

Looking to the future, the OECD said the flows of private these flows," it said. resources into the developing world could be more volatile than public funds but the better health of both international banks and Third World debtors after the 1980s debt crisis

should help to sustain the expansion of lending.

The temptation of higher returns than in the developed world would continue to attract investing institutions which were also looking for ways to diversify their risks, it said. Economic reforms in the countries on receiving the funds should also help to win and maintain investors' confidence, The OECD broke down net flows of resources to developing countries as follows (billions of dollars):

Type of finance	1992	1991	1990
Official Aids Export credits Private Investment Bank lending Aid Total	68.1	70.1	72.1
	54.9	57.4	54.5
	3.3	1.7	4.7
	94.0	62.2	58.7
	28.8	26.4	27.9
	37.7	11.0	15.5
	5.2	5.2	5:3
	165.5	134.0	135.4

Vietnam pledged \$1.8b in aid

PARIS (R) — Vietnam, emerging after years of isolation from the global financial community, has received pledges of aid for next year totalling \$1.86 billion from governments and development agencies. A World Bank statement said that aid donors at a two-day meeting in Paris had agreed to promise the money as a result of what it called Vietnam's remarkable success in transforming its economy from a centrally planned to a market system. Roughly 60 per cent of the money will come from individual governments, led by Japan, while the rest will be provided by such international bodies as the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), a World Bank official said. After decades of war on its soil. Vietnam began its return to the fold of international finance this summer when the United States eased its embargo against the southwest Asian country.

U.S., Japan appear content to let dollar in 100 to 110 yen range

This report is submitted by Naser Nabulsi, private client

against the dollar.

Technical view: The Japanese yen rose 0.3 per cent against the group, Merrill Lynch-Dubai

Overview

Fundamental view: The dollar should continue to strengthen against European currencies in coming quarters as interest rates in Europe decline further. The U.S. and Japan both appear content to let the dollar remain indefinitely in the 100-to-110 range of recent months. But upward pressure on the yen is likely to reemerge next year even if Japan's current account surplus narrows somewhat. We continue to look for the dollar to rise to DM 1.85 while falling to yen 95 over the next 12 months.

Technical view: The U.S. dollar index was down about 0.2 per cent for the week ended Nov. 5. This weakness was fairly broadly based as the greenback fell versus four of the six currencies we regularly monitor. Even the strength relative to the other two currencies amounted to less than 0.5 per cent. As a result, short term momentum oscillators have turned down, suggesting that the first phase of the rally from October's low is complete.

At the same time, the medium term oscillators are turning up. This would imply that any nearby weakness is likely to be a short term (counter trend) event in the context of a renewed uptrend. If so, that correction is likely to be relatively well contained, with nearby support indicated at 93.30; if, indeed, a new uptrend is underway, worst case support is likely to be around 92.25. Resistance for the dollar index is indicated at this past summer's 95.80 high; a rally decisively through that level would allow for a challenge of 97,50-98.00.

Japanese yen

Fundamental view: The dollar remained at the 107 level against the yen in recent days, even as it strengthened against European currencies. The ven is typically less sensitive to interest rate differentials than the European currencies and has reacted little to the recent sharp rise in U.S. short rates. Recent comments by Fred Bergsten, a Washington-based economist whose views are considered influential within the Clinton administration, may have helped boost the yea. Mr. Bergsten recommended that central banks take concerted action if the dollar rises to above the 110 ven level to help enforce a target range of 100-to-110 yen. He also noted that the yen will need to rise to the 95 level against the dollar to curtail Japan's current account surplus if Japan's economy remains weak. This view is consistent with our forecast for further yen strength in 1994.

Our Tokyo economics unit recently revised down its growth forecast for Japan in 1994 from 1.5 per cent to 0.8 per cent and looks for a current account surplus of \$125 billion next year compared to \$137 billion this year. We would not be surprised to see the U.S. seek further yen appreciation next year if Japan's external surplus remains high against the backdrop of a sluggish growth. We maintain our 6- and 12-month forecasts for the ven USD rate of 100 and 95 respectively. Over the next twelve months, we look for the yen to trade in a broad range of 90-to-110

U.S. dollar last week. It has generally been our view that the weakness demonstrated by the Japanese yen versus the U.S. dollar since mid August should ultimately serve to correct the excesses that were built up during the course of the 1993 uptrend. In that regard, we still think that there is a reasonable possibility that the currency can still move through the 110 JY/U.S.\$ area. and we can say that the minimum requirements for a complete correction have already been satisfied.

Potentially important support at 108-109 has already been tested, but short term momentum oscillators have turned to the upside and medium term sentiment readings are nicely oversold (though still with a downward bias). It would appear, then, that the correction has already achieved many of the objectives that it needed to achieve. From this point, a rally through 104 would start to turn medium term momentum indicators back up, would indicate that the corrective process was all but over, and would likely confirm our basic view that the larger, dominant yen uptrend is still intact.

Pound sterling

Fundamental view: The pound slipped against both the U.S.\$ and the DM, trading recently at 1.47 U.S.\$/: and DM/: 2.49. The pound should weaken further against both currencies after Nov. 30, when we expect a cut in interest rates along with the presentation of the budget. We forecast a depreciation to U.S.\$/: 1.41 in 12 months. as U.S. interest rates rise gradually beginning in mid-1994. Against the DM, however, we are forecasting appreciation after near-term weakness, to DM/: 2.61 in 12 months, driven by our forecast of a 175 basis point decline in short-term DM interest rates.

Also underlying the pound's expected rise against the DM are ir above-consensus forecast of 1994 U.K. growth at 3.2 per cent and our below-consensus projection of no German growth in

Technical view: The British pound gained 0.2 per cent against the U.S. dollar last week. The relative strength properties for this currency remain stronger than lose of some of the other European currencies. Medium te. in sentiment has been improving of late, while short term put/call sentiment readings are already oversold. In addition, short term momentum has turned back to the upside.

All of this implies that the currency is nicely positioned for a rally. However, medium term momentum has a downward bias and, until this is alleviated, nearby strength is likely to be limited. There is important long term chart support at 1.40-1.42 U.S.\$/:; the ability to hold near this level in coming weeks could well improve the chance that a longer term bottom is forming. More medium term support exists near \$1.46. By contrast, important long term resistance exists near \$1.60, with medium term resistance in the 1.55-1.58 range. Versus the DM, sterling has been able to maintain its relative

strength. Medium term momentum for the cross-rate appears to

be bottoming, but short term oscillators are very overbought and may delay the full impact of medium term improvement for a few weeks. Such a development would do much to support the currency's developing relative strength position. The cross-rate is testing resistance exists at 2.50-2.53. Important support is at 2.43-2.44.

Deutschemark

Fundamental view: After surging to the DM 1.70 level in early November the dollar has pulled back only marginally to the DM 1.69 level. The U.S.-German gap in two-year rates, which has been closely correlated with the Deutschemark exchange rate in recent years, has narrowed to about 120 basis points versus 165 basis points in late October and 230 basis points in early May. Mounting evidence that the U.S. economy is beginning to experience more robust growth — our estimate is 4.2 per cent for the current quarter — has pushed money market rates up sharply in the U.S. in recent days as short-term interest rates in Germany have declined. Relative business cycle and interest rate trends continue to point toward weaker European currencies in the year ahead. A 2 per cent decline in German industrial production in September virtually erased a 2.2 per cent gain in the previous month, confirming that Germany's economy continues to stag-

Even if U.S. growth slows back to the 2.5 per cent-to-3.0 per cent range next year, as is widely expected, U.S. short-term interest rates should remain in a relatively narrow range next year while short-term rates in Section 1997 and 1997 cent. We continue to look for dollar to reach DM 1.80 and DM 1.80 and DM 1.85 over the next six and 12 months respectively.

Technical view: The Deutschemark dropped 0.5 per cent

week-to-week versus the U.S. dollar. However, short term momentum has turned up, indicating a nearby rally. In line with this, both short and medium term sentiment indicators have been improving. At the same time, medium term momentum has the potential to maintain its new-found weakness through January. This latter point would suggest that nearby currency strength is likely to be short lived. The currency's decline through the 1.693 DM/U.S.\$ level early in the week has done much to imply that any such DM rally will likely be only a reaction within a new downtrend (with decent support at 1.65-1.66), rather than a full-blown test of the recent highs at 1.59-1.60 and tends to confirm the view that the currency's dominant longer term downtrend is still in force.

This implies that an eventual decline to 1.75 and beyond remains a reasonably strong probability. The mark/yen cross-rate. has moved into the benchmark 62-64 trading range. However, short term momentum is bottoming even as medium term momentum remains constructive. Benchmark support is just above 62.00 in the sense that a break of that level could imply a test of the August low near 60,00. The 66,50-67,00 level has proven to be good resistance, and a decisive rally back through that benchmark would do much to signal further strength toward important chart resistance at 70-72.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY NOVEMBER 13, 1993 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: We are having a Solar Eclipse and the New Moon is Scorpio today, which is Sadie Hawkin's Day and a minor element of mental confusion won't work against your interests as long as you don't attempt any serious

Steer clear of a business person or a banker who is overconcerned with the financial aspects of any situation and take-suggestions from unusual friends. TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20)

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19)

Don't try to put any new ideas into effect but stick to the various public and vocational promises of an outside nature you have made and you succeed. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) An obligation from the past that

you question should be put aside for advanced means to gain your MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

July 21) You find an outside associate is itching for a confrontation but give that satisfac-tion and instead do what will please vour mate. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Use

extra care in whatever you do that pertains to your usual busi-ness activities and make use of potential success in the world of outside activities.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You want to have a good time today at all costs and it would cost more than it would be

65 Certain tourney 66 No hope for him

Wound covers

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worth so concentrate upon usual and routine activities.

LIBRA: (September 23 to Octo-ber 22) Don't get caged in by a home problem or where a femily prejudice is concerned but be off to new and unusual pleasures that take away feelings of

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You certainly have some uncertainty or difficulty with a communic day and instead seek out home pleasures and enjoy them with the one you are fond of.

giets

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Think about what you can do to get in touch with those who can be helpful to you in outside interests and avoid getting into money matters.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) This is the time to aside for the moment and to get into the practical aspects con nected with you, material activi-

AQUARIUS: (January '21 to February 19) You now need to keep away from a limiting condition or temptation that can put you behind the eight ball and instead be with progressive friends.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Keep away from an angry friend that can vent spleen of annoyance upon you and quietly find usual means by which can focus ahead quietly to have more

Peanuts









Andy Capp





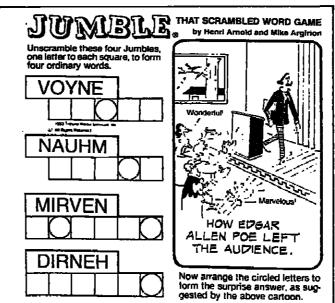




Mutt'n'Jeff



THE BETTER HALF, By Harris' MARRIAGE COUNSELOR HARRIS "If I have to be miserable with someone I'm glad I get to be miserable with you."



Print answer here: (Answers tomorrow Jumbles. NOVEL GUIDE CHROME SMUDGE Answer. What the diners at the Chinese restaurant preferred — THE "MEIN" COURSE



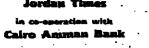
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Currency	New York Class	Tekyo . Close
80 -42 - 10 4	14- 10 11 93	par 11 .11 · 93
Sterling Pound	1.4790	1.4783
Deutsche Murk	1.6875	1.6870
Suis-Franc	1.4885	1.4897
French Franc	5.8835	5.8855**
Japanese Yea	107.01	107.00
Exempess Current Lair	1,1340	1.1330**

California + 1000 c.m. (All

Correct	1 MTH	3 MTHS	• Mus	12 MTH
U.S. Dollar	3.00	3.31	. 3.43	3.68
Sterling Pound	5.75	5.56	5.44	5.38
Deutsche Mark	6.57	6.25	5.93	5.50
Suba Franc	1.50	4.56	4.21	3.93
French Frank	6.81	6.65	6.25	5.74
Japaner Yen	2.37	2.31	2.12	2.06
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Date: 11'11 1993

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L'A. Dollar	0.6990	0.7010
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Japanese Ven	0.6526	0.6559
Dutch Guilder	0.3688	0.3706
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Belgian From:	****	4,000
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Other Currencies	Date: 11:11-1995		
Carrency	Hid	Offer	
Subraini Diner	. 1.2300	1.8540	
Labunce Liru	0.039955	0.041235	
Saudi Riyal	0.1859	0.1890	
Konald Distar	2.2250	2.3150	
Çetarî Rişal	0.1890	0.1918	
Leption Pound	€.2050	0.2220	
Omeni Rivel	1.7770	1.8200	
L'Ar. Dirkum .	0.1290	0.1918	
Cincik Druchmu	0.2785	0.3235	
Capriot Poppel	7.3385	1.3825	

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

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U.S. \$1.00 costs

One sterling

One ounce of gold

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1.3103/13 1.6972/82 1.9052/62 1.5023/33 36.26/30 5,8990/90 1661.3/2.8 106.45/55 8,2462/66 7.3750/50 6.7550/50 \$1,4780/90

\$376.85/377.35

Canadian dollar **Deutschemarks** Dutch guilders Swiss francs Belgian francs French francs Italian lire Japanese yen Swedish crowns Norwegian crowns Danish crowns

Gulf Arabs to set up export finance body

ABU DHABI (R) — The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) is setting up an export finance organisation to stimulate nonoil trade, a senior GCC official has said.

UAE Minister of State for Finance and Industrial Affairs Ahmad Humaid Al Tayer said the organisation would mostly use private sector funds to boost exports and diversify the oil-dominated economies of the Gulf states.

It will also seek funds from banks and Gulf finance houses. "We have charged the secretariat to study how much financing it needs and establish a body to finance and guaran-tee GCC exports," Sheikh Tayer told reporters after a meeting of GCC finance and industry ministers

Abdullah Al Quwaiz, GCC assistant secretary general for economic affairs, had said last week the council was seeking a

painless way to finance its exports to main trading partners.

Sheikh Tayer said the ministers approved a list of recommendations including laws to protect key industries and unify their industrial laws throughout the GCC — United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, and But he said the details still

had to be worked out. Sheikh Tayer said the GCC ministers met to prepare for talks next year and in 1995 with their main trading partners the United States, Japan and the European Community. The GCC is trying to in-

partners to develop local in-The regional alliance was also chalking out a plan to boost foreign investment in the GCC and guarantee transfer of technology from the three.

crease exports to the three

People, not governments, bring prosperity to Pacific, officials say

big rise of incomes of Japanese and other Asians is a result of what people do, not what governments do, according to staffers at the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

An IMF report arguing that government interference hampered prosperity in Asia rather than helping, is being put forward on the eve of an Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit meeting of President Clinton and leaders from 14 other governments meet next week in Seattle,

Washington. The IMF survey says higher living standards in Asia come largely from:

Asia to save much of their income instead of spending it. Emphasis on schools and and use foreign know-how.

"Looking at the experience of other countries, the., evidence suggests that less intervention in the economic arena.. is strongly correlated with growth," the report said.

In the conservative language favoured by the fund, the "Asian model attests to value of openness and minimal policy-induced distortions." Limits to government in-

tervention were also praised in a book-length study "East the Asian Miracle" published in September by the fund's sister organisation, the World Bank. Jonathan Ostry, a Canadian

in the fund's research department, prepared the new survey with the aim of giving the government of New Zealand some guidance for its own

week's election defeat of the conservative National Party government in New Zealand. Prime Minister Jim Bolger blamed its poor showing on voters' discontent with the selling of public assets to private interests and cuts in government spending on health,

education and welfare. But the IMF survey concluded that the government had been doing just the right things in reducing its influence.

"Reorientation of... policy and structure reforms pursued by the New Zealand authorities are precisely those which, in due course, are most likely to improve the economy's growth prospects," Mr. Ostry wrote.

His work was summarised at length in the current issue of

Mr. Ostry said evidence shows that Japan has not used public resources to favour certain industries, as is often said.

He acknowledged that the Japanese government did encourage "certain knowledgeintensive industries" in the mid-1970s.

But he said Jananese tax rates on manufacturing are more uniform across various industries than in the United States or United Kingdom.

"The scale of government involvement was small relative to the United States and Germany," he wrote.

In South Korea he said the government's drive to promote heavy industry and chemicals is "now being viewed as a clear failure of Korean industrial policy.

Moroccan king outlines economic priorities

The tendency of people in

RABAT (R) — King Hassan has told the new non-party Moroccan government of technocrats its main tasks will be to bold down the state deficit, control inflation and provide

The Inn Place to be..

At the swearing-in ceremony in the Rabat palace Thursday, the king said the government led by Prime Minister Mohammad Karim Lamrani, must present its programme for approval by parliament "in the shortest possible time."

The deficit must be kept below 1.5 per cent, there must be a rigorous control of inflation. By means of investments and daily action, not charity, the Moroccan citizen must be honoured by assuring him a job," the king said according to the official translation car-

agency MAP.
"When you have obtained parliament's confidence you will then be fully in charge of your ministries," he told the 32

ried by the government news

members of the new forma-

Elections in two stages in June and September produced a hung parliament with no clear majority in the 333-seat chamber of representatives. The king had to appoint a government composed entirely of technocrats with no party affiliations.

The king said the next task would be to draft the 1993 budget which must be adopted by parliament before the end

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of this year. He said the goverament must "avoid routine and embark on new mea-

Four opposition parties, who won 122 seats in parliament and a week ago declined a royal invitation to form a minority government, have been campaigning strongly for measures to boost the economy and create jobs.

After two years of drought, the economy has tended to

Club Restaurant

Lunch

stagnate, the trade gap has widened, investments have declined and unemployment is on

An innovation in the new government is the creation of a human rights ministry, led by former rights activist Omar Azziman. The king said his appointment "answers an essential need in our country.

He said administrative tribunals would be set up soon to settle complaints about abuses.

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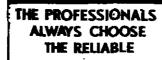
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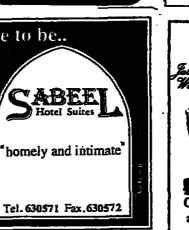
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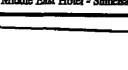


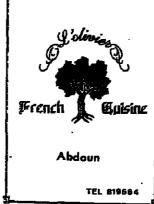






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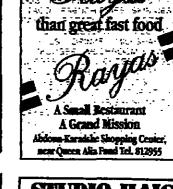
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U.K. queen

for cop video

mother sends aide

LONDON (R) — The queen mother was so disappointed to miss the last episode of a television series featuring a gritty

Glasgow police detective that a

video of it was rushed to her

London palace. At the age of

93, Queen Elizabeth's mother known as the "Queen Mum"?

had sat spellbound through

"Taggart", which is regularly watched by 14 million viewers across Britain. "We received a

call from an equerry last week

saying the queen mother had

seen the first two episodes, but

had unfortunately missed the

third and could we possibly

send them a tape," a spokes-man for Scottish Television said Friday. "We were very happy to comply with her re-

Angie Dickinson

BURBANK, Calif. (AP) — A
"This Is Your Life" tribute to actress Angie Dickinson ended"
about as quickly as it began, with the surprised TV star exclaiming "not on your life" and fleeing. Left behind were host Pat Sajak and the mests wart.

Pat Sajak and the guests waiting to honour her, including
Bob Hope, Burt Reynolds,
Earl Holliman, Jackie Collins
and friends and relatives, said

NBC spokeswoman Margo

Zinberg. The tribute was to be

part of a "This Is Your Life"

special on Nov. 26 on NBC featuring Miss Dickinson and

another, unidentified celebrity

whose segment has ver to be

taped, Zinberg said. "They

should have known — I turned

it down years ago," Miss Dick-

inson told Army Archerd, col-

umnist for the trade paper dai-

really do. If they brought out

all these people... I would just be sobbing and trying not to cry and I don't look good

crying. Otherwise, I'd prob-

ably have done the show." The

actress had been lured to NBC

under the pretext of taking

part in an interview for a tele-

vision special on Brian De Pal-

ma, who directed her in his

1980 film Dressed To Kill, But

while the 62-year-old Miss

Dickinson was getting ready backstage Tuesday night, Sajak surprised her with the "This Is Your Life" greeting

which traditional kicks off the

show. "Oh I'm not going to do

it" the startled Miss Dickinson

replied, according to Archerd.

"Not on vour life." An audi ence of about 150 people

watching on closed-circuit TV

ly Variety. Later, Miss Dickings son told U.S. television: "I think it boils down to vanity. I

refuses tribute

Sri Lankan troops fight grim battle against Tamil rebels

COLOMBO (R) - Sri Lankan security forces rescued some troops Friday from a northern military base where up to 250 soldiers are feared killed in a battle still raging with Tamil rebels, military officials said.

Reinforcements had yet to reach the besieged defenders, they said.

"Our reinforcements could not make an amphibious landing close at the camp last night because of enemy resistance, a senior military official told Reuters.

"But we have to reach the defenders without delay or the camp will fall." He said they were determined to hold the

The attack on the isolated Pooneryn Base on the shores of Jaffna Lagoon was the worst defeat for government forces since the Tamil revolt for a separate homeland began 10

Fighting was continuing Friday, the military said.

The surprise rebei strike raised questions as to whether the government should continue its relentless battle against the rebels or opt for negotiations.

The writing is on the wall. The government can't fight the said retired Air Force Commander Harry Gunatil-

NEWS IN BRIEF

BONN (AFP) - Human rights continue to be violated

systematically in China, and the catastrophic situation brought

about by the Tiananmen Square crackdown of 1989 on the

democracy movement has not essentially changed since,

Amnesty International charged Friday. The secretary-general

of the German section. Volmar Deile, said the extent of the

violations was shocking, and that the only thing that had

changed was the restoration of relations between the Chinese

government and the West for commercial reasons. Mr. Deile

was speaking ahead of a five-day visit that Chancellor Helmut

Kohl is making to China next week aimed at securing a big stake for German industry in the country's current economic

expansion through its restoration of the free market. Amnesty

has provided Mr. Kohl with a list of 18 political prisoners

sentenced to 10 years' jail or more whose immediate,

unconditional release it wants him to demand. Four ministers

going with the chancellor have also each been allotted one

prisoner whose case they are asked to raise. Mr. Deile said the

delegation had been asked by Amnesty to secure concrete

HONG KONG (R) - Britain and China are heading for a

new confrontation over Hong Kong's democratic future despite an apparent olive branch from London, and analysts

say the chances of a deal on electoral reform are now remote.

Reactions in Hong Kong ranged from near-euphoria to dismay to comments this week from Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd

that Britain was ready to have as many rounds of talks with

China as necessary to strike a deal. But with both sides already

talking at cross purposes, analysts say Mr. Hurd's London

statement may prove to be little more than a minor distraction

on the way to a collapse of the long-running negotiations on

electoral reform before the colony returns to China in 1997.

"Both sides are trying to position themselves in the best

possible way for the ultimate breakdown of the talks," said Ian

Scott, professor of politics at Hong Kong University. A week

ago. Hong Kong and British sources still insisted that only a

major Chinese concession at the next round could save the

TOKYO (AFP) - A Japanese minister said Friday that

single-party rule in Communist China could not last for long,

but nor would his government begin formal contacts with

Taiwan. Kinihiko Saito, Japanese vice minister of foreign

affairs, said that although a single party had been in control of

Beijing for a considerable period, "with economic develop-

ment. I am sure that this system (in China) will not be able to

survive long." Mr. Saito told a breakfast meeting with

reporters that the Japanese government has not had official

contacts with Taiwan, an island of 22 million residents, since recognising Beijing in 1972. "This official position will not change," he said. He added that although there may be

informal contacts, such as handshakes, between Taiwan and Japan at a gathering of Asian-Pacific leaders next week in

Seattle, there would be no official exchanges between minis-

ters and Taiwanese officials. Gaishi Hiraiwa, president of

Keidanren, the main employers association in Japan, recently

visited Taiwan, the first in 20 years. Several Japanese politicians have also recently called for closer relations with Taiwan because of its economic importance.

LUANDA (R) — The Angolan government accused UNITA

rebels Friday of massacring at least 40 civilians near the besieged northern city of Malange. Military sources quoted by

the Angolan News Agency, Angop, said the 40 were killed Thursday when UNITA troops attacked the village of Kazungo, eight kilometres north of Malange. An uncertain number of other received the statement of the the st

of other people were wounded or killed as they ran over mines planted in fields to flee the attack, Angop said. Elsewhere,

military sources told Angop UNITA was massing forces to

attack another besieged city. Menongue, capital of southern

Cuando Cubango province. Malange and Menongue are among several provincial capitals — including Cuita and Luena — which UNITA (National Union for the Total

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Clinton, a college-age foe

of the Vietnam War, saluted American veterans and said the

United States must never shrink from what's necessary "to

keep our nation secure and our people prosperous." Begin-

ning with a breakfast for leaders of veterans' groups at the

White House and ending with a visit to veterans' hospital in

West Virginia, Mr. Clinton devoted the day to paying homage to those who served in the military. "A grateful nation remembers." the president said at Arlington National Cemet-

ery after a placing a wreath at the tomb of the unknowns. He

called attention to the presence of 17 army Rangers who took

part in the fire fight in Somalia in which 18 Americans were

killed on Oct. 3, praising their "great ability, success and unbelievable valour." Mr. Clinton said.

Independence of Angola) has surrounded since January.

Clinton honours veterans

Angola: Rebels massacred 40 civilians

'China's 1-party rule will not last'

improvement in the situation of political prisoners.

Hopes fade for Hong Kong deal

Beijing talks from collapse.

Kohl urged to press China on rights

The air force bombed rebel targets in the Jaffna district Friday but denied a report that the region's main government office was hit.

A Defence Ministry state-ment said many of the defenders had re-grouped after scat-tering in confusion during Thursday's attack.

"Until reinforcements are in position and the situation brought fully under control, the casualty figures of the security forces cannot still be declared with certainty," it

Officials said they feared 250 soldiers had been killed in the attack. Northern residents gave a figure of between 250 and 500. About 60 rebels are said to have been killed.

Army reinforcements, sent by sea, were waiting off the coast after several attempts to land near the base were thwarted by the rebels, offi-

But 30 sailors and six soldiers broke through rebel lines at dawn and waded across the lagoon to another army base, they said. An earlier report said 40 sailors had been res-

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam guerrillas were using captured 120 mm heavy mortars to fire at the base. Defence analysts and diplomats said the fall of the camp

could give the Tigers unhindered access to their northern stronghold in the Jaffna penin-

The base was set up to prevent rebel boat traffic across the lagoon, which separates the peninsula from the main-

Commander Gunatillake said President Dingiri Banda Wijetunga might have to ease rhetoric on the war after the latest debacle.

Mr. Wijetunga, in office since May, has often said the crisis is a "terrorist" problem and not an ethnic one. He has vowed to wipe out the rebels, backing military hardliners, including Army Chief Cecil Waidyaratne.

Last month the army advanced into rebel territory in the north intending to destroy a rebel pier and boats at Killaly, near Pooneryn.

After a battle that left 350 rebels and soldiers dead and destroyed 200 to 300 boats, the army withdrew. The rebels resumed using the pier the next

More than 30,000 people guerrillas, military personnel and civilians - have died in the conflict since 1983.

Meanwhile, a parliamentary committee trying to end Sri Lanka's 10-year-old ethnic war recommended in a report presented to parliament Friday that minority Tamil demands

MOSCOW (AFP) — President

Boris Yeltsin, seeking to allevi-

ate concerns over the fairness

of next month's parliamentary

elections, voiced support Fri-

day for the participation of

more than 500 foreign obser-

The ITAR-TASS and Inter-

fax news agencies said Mr.

Yeltsin expressed his full sup-

port for the presence of the

observers from the Conference

on Security and Cooperation in

ing with the chairman of the

CSCE parliamentary assembly, Ilkka Suominen.

The meeting came one

month before voters are to cast

their ballots for Russia's first

post-Soviet parliament in an election called by Mr. Yeltsin

after the violent suppression of

the old-guard legislature last

The observers were also to

monitor a referendum on a

new constitution, also to be

held on Dec. 12, which Mr.

way of adopting a new fun-

Indo-Pakistani ties hinge

mabad.

talks).

on Kashmir — Bhutto

Yeltsin described as a "just"

NEW DELHI (AFP) — India

will have to discuss the future

status of the divided state of

Kashmir for better relations

with Pakistan, Pakistani Prime

Minister Benazir Bhutto said

in an interview published here

ification on whether the gov-ernment of India is prepared to talk about the future of Jammu

and Kashmir as a separate item on the agenda," Ms. Bhutto told the Hindu daily in Isla-

"Pakistan is seeking a clar-

month.

Friday.

rope (CSCE) during a meet-

vers to monitor the vote.

Yeltsin welcomes foreign

observers to monitor vote

devolution of power.

But the Parliamentary Select Committee, appointed two years ago, failed to agree on a peace formula to end the war by Tamil guerrillas for a separate state in the island's north and east.

The parliamentary report, presented by committee Chairman Mangala Moonesinghe of the opposition Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP), said the devolution contemplated in previous legislation had not been fully implemented.

The committee was appointed in mid-1991 and held the first of its 47 meetings the following November.

Made up of members of the ruling party and other parties in parliament, the committee was expected to "arrive at a political solution to the question involving the devolution of power to the north and the

Tamils want the two provinces to be treated as one region. Sinhalese and Muslim politicians say doing that would mean virtually giving in to the rebels' demand for a separate homeland.

The report said the majority of committee members favoured greater devolution but it could not decide on the main issue of dividing the provinces or keeping them as one

damental law, Interfax re-

Mr. Yeltsin said the referen-

dum would allow "all of the

100 million Russian voters to

express their opinion" on the

draft constitution that will con-

siderably boost his powers as

The Russian leader prom-

ised the president of the Euro-

pean Commission, Jacques

Minister Willy Claes, whose

country currently holds the

rotating presidency of the

Mr. Yeltsin's enthusiasm in

welcoming foreign observers

came as candidates raised con-

cerns over the fairness of elec-

toral rules which they view as

favouring the pro-presidential

Russia's Choice coalition,

headed by Deputy Prime Minister Yegor Gaidar.

She told the newspaper a

"ceasefire or the withdrawal of

some of (India's) troops from the (Kashmir) Valley... would enable a Pakistani leader to

respond positively to the Indi-

an government's offer (of

In a message to Ms. Bhutto

soon after her election last month, Indian Prime Minister

P.V. Narasimha Rao offered

to open talks on all issues including Kashmir.

European Union.

TAIPEI (R) — A Chinese doctor and civil servant armed with surgical knives and fake bombs hijacked a Chinese airliner to Taiwan Friday and said they were pro-democracy dissidents seeking political asylum. It was the seventh hijacking of a Chinese plane to Taiwan this year, and the third in eight

Sri Lankan soldiers search a vehicle Friday as

part of a stepped up security measure in the wake

The two men took control of the China Northern Airlines MD-82 jet with 82 people on board as it overflew Shanghai on a flight between the Northern Chinese city of Changchun and Fuzhou in the south.

The hijackers said they were members of China's Democracy Movement and were present in Beijin's Tiananmen Square when troops crushed prodemocracy protests with heavy loss of life on June 4, 1989.

"We came to Taiwan to find democracy. Mainland China is in darkness," one of the men, Li Xiangyu, 35, an employee of a Chinese government economic agency, told a news con-

The other hijacker was identified as Han Shuxue, 40. a medical doctor. Both were from the northeastern province of Jilin. They claimed two ment to test blood pressure were bombs, police said. A stewardess among the

plane's nine crew members was slightly hurt when a hijacker grappled with her, said police at Taipei's international airport, where the plane landed.

and prosecutors said they would be tried on air piracy

The seven hijackings to Taiwan since April — including one on Nov. 5 and one last Monday — have become a big source of tension between Taiwan and China, diplomatic enemies since Taipei's Nationalist government lost

of a massive Tamil Tiger rebel attack on a military

base in the island's north (AFP photo)

the Democracy Movement.
Taipei and Beijing have been trying to negotiate a pact under which hijackers would be sent back to China to deter future incidents, but two rounds of talks have ended without agreement.

In Beijing an official of CAAC, China's aviation au-

Taiwan, which has accused China of deliberately allowing the hijackings to take place, possibly in an effort to test its air defences, denounced the most recent incident.

The pilot of Friday's plane at

7th Chinese plane hijacked to Taiwan

The hijackers were detained

charges. The prosecutors declined to comment on whether their request for asylum might be granted.
The plane, crew and other

passengers were sent back to China 41/2 hours later after police searched the aircraft to see whether it contained electronic spying equipment oper-ated by the Chinese government. No such equipment was

The men said they went on the run together after the killings at Tiananmen and tried but failed to escape from China through its southwest province of Yunnan. They said it was hard for them to obtain jobs in China because of their background.

"I'd rather die than return to the mainland," said Mr. Li, who appeared relaxed and confident. He said he was prethe civil war in 1949.
Each time, the hijackers asked for asylum in Taiwan.

which rejected China's request to repatriate them immediately. The most recent incident was the first in which hijackers actually said they belonged to

thority, said Friday that Taiwan should return the hijackers im-

first refused to fly back to China without the hijackers but later relented, police said.

Delors, during a visit here Thursday that EC observers pared for a long prison sentwould also have full access to attache cases containing equipence in Taiwan. all aspects of the voting proce-Strike cripples Kashmir; clashes Dec. 12 will be a great democratic moment for Russia," said Belgian Foreign

army siege of the Hazratbal Mosque and a curfew shut down the Kashmir Valley Friday as two days of clashes between Indian troops and Muslim militants left nearly

two dozen people dead. A Kashmiri Muslim leader said meanwhile that many of the Muslim rebels and pilgrims who have been entrenched inside the Hazratbal Mosque since the night of Oct. 15 are sick, hungry, tired and suffer-

ing from the cold.
"As many as 12 people are" sick and four of them aged between 12 and 15 are in critical condition. Two others are suffering from dehydration," said Abdul Majeed Wan, a leader of the all-party Kashmir

Freedom Conference. Thousands of Srinagar residents defied a strict curfew Friday to stage demonstrations against the army siege of their holiest shrine but were dispersed by troops using clubs

tors chanted anti-Indian slo-

with militants leave 22 dead

gans and tried to march on the U.N. observers office here but were stopped by police who beat them back with bamboo truncheons, witnesses said. The conference, encompas-

sing 27 political and militant groups opposed to Indian rule over Kashmir, had called a general strike and for protest marches after weekly prayers Friday to demand a lifting of the siege of the mosque.

The demonstrations were generally peaceful but police reported that fierce clashes between Muslim rebels and the Indian security forces in several Kashmir towns had left at least 22 people dead during the past 24

hours. Police said five civilians were killed Friday in the town of Lashepora Kupwara in northern Kashmir when troops fired on bystanders after coming under attack from militants. Five Muslim militants and

with Indian troops in the villages of Ghat and Bhabour in Doda district of southern Kashmir, police said. Fighting continued Friday

and more casualties were expected, according to police. A woman was killed and two people injured in the northern Kashmir town of Baramulla when a grenade hurled by militants at a bunker missed its target, exploding on the road,

Four militants were killed in a gunbattle late Thursday with border guards in Badgam district in central Kashmir, PTI said, and one person died in a clash between militants and

Indian troops at Shalinar, also in central Kashmir.

Government officials held another day of talks Friday with representatives of the 50 armed Muslim separatists holed up in the Hazratbal Mosque but reported no progress to-wards ending the stalemate.

saw her refusal. She dashed out through a rear door, accompanied by her agent. Clinton orders

Mickey Mouse

ties from Sweden

GOTHENBURG (AFP) — U.S. President Bill Clinton has ordered 36 neckties adorned with Disney figures from the Swedish family company Atlas Design after noticing a Mickey Mouse tie on a White House reporter, the company said. Mr. Clinton recently noticed the reporter wearing the tie at a White House press conference. When he expressed his delight, the journalist removed it and gave it to Mr. Clinton. The U.S. president has since ordered 36 ties with different Disney cartoon characters, -Disney cartoon characters, which were delivered to the party of the pa White House free of charge. Atlas Design sealed a contract with Disney World six years

Professor fired over racial remark to all-black class

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP)

— A white professor said he'll fight his firing over a racial remark he made to a class at predominantly black Florida A And M University. Gerald Gee said he wanted to illustrate an idea, not insult students, when he used the phrase "nigger mentality" on Sept. 20 in his all-black class. "I was trying to make a point. I was not calling a name or accusing anybody. I would never do that," Prof. Gee said. Prof. Gee was notified last week his contract wasn't being renewed. meaning he has a one-year grace period before dismissal. state regulations also give him 25 days to request an explana-tion, "which I have done," he said. Prof. Gee, 48, has taught at the university since 1977 and was eligible to be considered for tenure this school year-Richard Hogg, provost and vice president for academic affairs, said it was his decision not to renew Prof. Gee's contract. "It was a statement no professor should make to students, regardless of race, creed or colour." Mr. Hogg told the Tallahassee Democrat news-Daper.

Japan to implement U.N. sanctions against N. Korea Korea, diplomats said.

TOKYO (Agencies) — Japan would implement U.N.approved sanctions against North Korea but feared such a move could provoke a dangerous response for the South East Asian region, Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata said

"Applying economic sanctions alone is not a good method. Dialogue with North Korea is crucial," he told journalists of Kyodo News Agency, referring to possible international moves to force Pyon-gyang to open its nuclear programme to full outside inspec-

If the international community decided to impose sanctions Pyongyang might be tempted to take military action and react unpredictably, he said, adding it could "erupt violently or initiate a reckless stampede in response..." If this occurred "it would bring about a tragedy not only for the North Korean people, but for the people in the Asia-Pacific region."

North Korean Deputy Foreign Minister Kang Sok Ju warned that pressure would not solve the nuclear problem. Only dialogue and negotiation could do that, he said in a dispatch carried by the North Korean News Agency monitored here.

Mr. Hata held out the prom-

ise of "humanitarian aid" for the North to help it overcome its "economic difficulties" if it agreed to international inspections of its nuclear sites.

Earlier Japan's Deputy Foreign Minister Kunibiko Saito told reporters Japan would implement U.N .approved sanctions but said no one could be sure they would be effective. "Perhaps it could prove to be the opposite," he

Japan hoped North Korea "will change its stand." But he recognised that "if there is no change, the situation cannot be left as it is."

The Japanese politicians' remarks are contrast with the stance adopted by Washington which would like to see sanctions imposed if North Korea refuses to allow inspections of its Yongbong nuclear facility by the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

On Wednesday, U.S. Under-Secretary of State for International Security Lynn Davis said American patience was "running out".

If the Security Council did adopt a sanctions policy, Japan would need to be able to show China, Pyongyang's ally - and permanent Council member that it had made every possible diplomatic overture to North

In Tokyo, U.S. Secretary of Defence Les Aspin grilled Japanese officials earlier this month on the extent of sanctions Japan could impose, with particular emphasis on stopping the flow of funds by residents in Japan to North Korea. The General Association of Korean Residents in Japan reportedly sends some \$600 mil-

lion a year to North Korea. The repatriated funds have become crucial to the North Korean economy, still reeling from the loss of aid from former Communist allies, which has virtually dried up with the break-up of the former Soviet Union, diplomats said.

Japan has put a calm public face on its profound concern over nearby North Korea's military nuclear programme. For example, a visiting U.N. official in Mr. Aspin's delegation said North Korea had massed 70 per cent of its forces along the demilitarised border with South Korea.

"North Korea has always concentrated (its military force) along the 38th parallel", Mr. Hata said Tuesday. "I don't consider it to be a special movement."

Japan's view of pursuing dialogue is largely shared by the South Korean government of President Kim Young-Sam.

Mr. Hata said Thursday that the question of nuclear weapons development in North Korea should be discussed at the meeting of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum next week in Seattle. North Korea will soon com-

plete development of a nuc-lear-capable missile that could hit most major cities in Japan and South Korea in less than 10 minutes, a Japanese Defence Ministry official said Friday.
"We cannot accurately say when and where the missiles would be deployed," a spokesman for the ministry's Intelli-

gence Department said. "But it is true that they are very close to completing development of this missile." In August, North Korea acknowledged the development of the long-range Rodong-1 missile, following reports in Japan, South Korea and the

United States that it test-fired four of them in the Sea of The Japanese spokesman said he could not say whether

the test-firings were successful. The Rodong-1 has a range of about 1,000 kilometres and could hit targets in less than 10 minutes, the Japanese defence official said.

Most of central and western Japan and all of South Korea would fall within its range.

Meanwhile, South Korea
Friday rejected North Korea's call for a "package deal" to settle the row over Pyongyang's nuclear weapons prog-ramme, urging the North to accept outside inspections first.

"Even before we discuss or consider the so-called package deal, there are obstacles we have to deal with in order to get to the point," South Korea's Foreign Minister Han Seung-Joo told journalists.

He said the North should

first allow nuclear inspections by the IAEA and agree to resume dialogue with South Korea to clear fears that it is developing weapons. Mr. Han was reacting to

Pyongyang's call for simultaneous compromises over the nuclear issue - the so-called package deal.

In a statement carried by the Korean Central News Agency. North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Kang Sok-Ju said the crisis would be solved smoothly if agreement was reached on

a package solution.

The package deal called on Washington to renounce its "nuclear threat and hostile policy" towards Pyongyang and for North Korea to "fully comply" with the IAEA safeguards agreement and accept inspections.

Marian Contraction of the Contra

6 teams battle for last 9 places in World Cup

ONDON (Agencies) — Eng-land almost certainly won't make it to next year's World Pitt inake it to next years traly to the United States. Italy

The last round of qualifying matches are being staged Wednesday, with the prospect that three of the 1990 semifinalists may not play in the 1994 competition.

The fourth, Germany, is already there, but it gained an automatic berth because it is se defending champion.

Violating the Germans are the

United States, another automatic qualifier as host nation, and title favourite Brazil. which qualified two months

But the rest of the teams that have qualified hardly read like 2 World Cup who's who -Colombia, Bolivia, Cameroon Nigeria, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Russia, Greece, Norway, Sweden and Mexico.

Sweden was unumeration in hosted the competition in the Soviet Sweden was runner-up when tibule 1958. Russia, then the Soviet Union, was a semifinalist in 1966. None of the others have ever reached that far.

While some outsiders have come through the qualifying rounds, some of soccer's mightiest teams are in danger of missing out on the first World Cup in the United

Argentina, a two-time champion which lost to Germany in the 1990 final in Rome, has been forced into a play-off with Australia. The two teams tied 1-1 in Sydney two weeks ago, and whoever loses the Nov. 17 second leg in Buenos Aires goes out.

So far, only four European teams other than Germany have qualified. Eight more European berths remain to be filled.

Denmark, the European champion, still has not qualified, neither has England, Ita-Portugal, Spain, Ireland, the Netherlands, Belgium and France. They have all left until the last game.

England has only a tiny chance of making it. The 1966 champion has to

win the San Marino by seven goals and then hope that Poland, which already has been eliminated, can beat the Dutch at home.

"Our hope is to go out with a bang," said England manager Graham Taylor, who could be facing his last match after 31/2 years in charge. "I hope the, miracle will occur. If we find

ZURICH (AFP) — Manchester United's Eric Cantona has

been suspended for four UEFA club matches for "im-

proper behaviour" following

his sending off at the end of last week's European Cup

match against Turkish side

decision the French player had

proper manner towards the re-

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HERSCH

Both vulnerable. South deals. NORTH

\$ 174 \$ 1642

SOUTH

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Page Page
Opening lead: Six of &
There are some hands where the
only real chance to make your contract is so poor that guile becomes a
realistic consideration. Besides, if

reaustic consideration. Besides, if you pull off a swindle, you can crow shout it for years—to the discomi-ture of your opponents. This hand is from Australia's Grand National

Teams competition.
To jump to two so trump with two soits virtually unstopped is not what we consider winning tactics.

The bidding:
South West North East
Pass 1 Pass
2 NT Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass
Opening hard Six of \$\frac{1}{2}\$

UEFA's disciplinary com-

"behaved in a particularly im-

Galatasaray.



Norway's Nalle (centre) duels with Turkish defenders during their World Cup qualifying match in Istanbul, Turkey (AFP photo)

seven goals or more, it still may not be enough." England's absence for the first time since 1978 would be a disaster for a country that is regarded as the cradie of soc-

But elimination for Italy would be an even bigger upset. The Italians have failed to qualify only once, in 1958. They will miss out again if they

lose to Portugal Wednesday. On paper, the Italians should be able to achieve a draw at home to Portugal. Playing for a tie, however, could be a tactical blunder against a Portuguese team unbeaten on the road and under less pressure.

If Italy goes out, Portugal and Switzerland, which hosts Estonia Wednesday, advance.
The elimination of Italy would be a major blow to the large number of Americans of Italian ancestray living in the

United States. The same applies to Ireland

The Irish team botched a chance to qualify when it lost 3-1 at home to Spain. That result put Spain second in the Group 3 standings, ahead of Ireland and behind Denmark. Only one point separates De-

nmark from the other two. On Wednesdsay, Spain hosts Denmark and Ireland goes to Belfast to face Northern Ireland in a game that has political as well as sports significance. Most people in the Irish Republic believe the whole of Ireland should be united and ruled from Dublin. Most peo-

Cantona also allegedly sug-

gested referee Kurth Roth-

lisberger was corrupt by claim-

ing some referees took bribes,

but UEFA decided to take no

action following his outburst.

ing the allegations.

the away goals rule.

Cantona later denied mak-

English champions Man-

chester United drew 0-0 in

Turkey but were eliminated on

even if you can be sure partner has at least one of them controlled. The

result was a three-no-trump con-tract which, to put it mildly, was

inelegant. West led the six of spades, ducked

around to South's queen. The only legitimate play for the contract was to find East with a doubleton king of clubs, a 4-to-1 against shot. In addition, to take advantage of that distribution, declarer would have to

cross to dummy's ace of spades as the entry for the club finesse, leav-ing North-South wide open in two

Rather than risk such exposure, declarer decided to trade on the ene-

my's ignorance of the diamond situ-ation by leading the queen of clubs

from hand. West, surrious to pre-serve the king of clubs as an entry

and expecting East to hold the ace of clubs, followed low. Declarer con-tinued by banging out the ace of clubs and quickly wrapped up 11 tricks against a red-faced West. At another table, North became

declarer at three no trump after West overcalled one spade. East led a spade to the queen, king and ace and, when the club finesse lost, the defenders took the next 10 tricks in

spades and diamonds. Down seven!

Cantona gets 4 match ban

GOREN BRIDGE

DON'T BELIEVE WHAT YOU SEE

feree."

ple in Northern Ireland prefer to be under the British flag. The result has been decades of

violent conflict. After winning its first six games in Group 4, Belgium hould have been the first European team to qualify.

But losses to Wales in March and Romania last month slowed the Belgians' charge towards the finals, and now they must gain a point at home to Czech Republic to qualify. A surprise loss in Brussels would open the door not only

to the RCS but to either Wales or Romania, who meet in Car-Wales, which has Manchester United stars Mark Hughes and Ryan Giggs as well as

famed Liverpool striker lan Rush on its team, has been to the finals only once, in 1958. Like neighbour Belgium, France was another team

forced to put the champagne

The French led Israel 2-1 last month with 10 minutes to go. But Israel, already eliminated, came back to win 3-2, so France must tie with Bulgaria in Paris to make sure this time.

On the same night that 16 teams battle over the remaining nine places. Germany faces Brazil in an exhibition game in

The game's 51,000 tickets have been sold out for three months. German soccer officials say they could have sold 150,000 tickets if they'd had a big enough stadium.

Meanwhile Turkish football

fans enjoyed another night of

celebration Wednesday as Norway lost their unbeaten World Cup record in their final

qualifier in Istanbul. The Norwegians had already assured their place in next year's finals as winners of Group 2 in the European qualifying zone but they were still expected to finish the group

Instead, they were stunned after only five minutes when Saglam Ertugrul found himself unmarked in the six-yard box to meet a low cross and fire Turkey ahead.

Twenty minutes later, the Samsunspor striker squeezed between two Norwegian defenders before slotting the ball past Erik Thorstvedt to set up a memorable victory a week after Galatasaray put Manchester United out of the European Cup.

Lars Bohninen hit the bar

with a long range shot before pulling a goal back for Norway four mintues after the break with a sweetly-struck halfvolley from just inside the box.

But, with nothing at stake, the visitors were unable to get the equaliser they needed to preserve their unbeaten re-

In a Group 6 match in Tel Aviv, Israel were unable to build on their upset victory over France last month.

Finland scored three in a twenty minute burst mid-way through the second half before Ronan Harazi grabbed a late consolation goal in the final

Becker survives scare to reach EC quarters

ANTWERP, Belgium (R) — Boris Becker survived a firstset thriller to beat American Chuck Adams 7-6, 6-4 and reach the quarterfinals of the European Community Tennis

Championship. Third seed Becker converted his third setpoint to prevail 9-7 in the tie-break after Adams wasted three setpoints when leading 6-3.

Becker became increasingly nervous after Adams broke his serve in the sixth game of the first set and started gesturing and shouting to himself in German after almost every mis-

The second set hardly went more smoothly for Becker. Many games went to deuce and Becker had to dig deep before converting his fourth matchpoint on Adams' serve after

two hours 20 minutes. Becker had to win the match to keep alive his hopes of qualifying for next week's ATP

Becker, who won the

season-ending finals in Frankfurt last year, is one of three players in Antwerp who can still qualify for the finals.

The others, Croat Goran Ivanisevic and Frenchman Cedric Pioline - seeded fifth and fourth respectively clash in the quarterfinals.

In-form Ivanisevic, who won the Paris Open last week, stayed on course for the ATP finals by breezing past Belgian Johan Van Herck.

In a match between two wild card entries. Ivanisevic's main problem was sealing the tie, which he did with an ace on his fifth match point to prevail 6-3.

Pioline knocked out German Marc Goellner 6-3, 7-6 after saving two setpoints in the tie-breaker.

"He's a dangerous player. He's got a big serve and a big forehand. If you go into a third set, you never know what might happen," said Pioline, ranked 11th in the world

LOST

Two dalmatian dogs white with black spots, male and female, five and four months old answering to the names of Jumbo and Zoya.

If anybody knows anything about them, please call 666794 or 823394 and will be well awarded.

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S. Arabia beat Jordan 69-53 at Asian Basketball Championships

By Aleen Bannayan Special to the Jordan Times

JORDAN'S national basketball team Friday lost a good opportunity to qualify for the Asian Championships, second round when they lost 69-53 to Saudi Arabia.

The Kingdom's team. which left Amman for Jakarta, Indonesia, Sunday, is grouped with titleholders China, Pakistan, Thailand and Saudi Arabia.

Assuming that Jordan can beat both Pakistan and Thailand, a win over Saudi Arabia would have qualified them to the second round in which eight teams will be fighting for the title and top-two places to qualify for the World Championships in Canada.

However, losing the first and most important match has diminished the chances of qualifying and Jordan will most probably end up playing for 8-18th places.

Saudi Arabia looked like they would be the eventual winners of the match, playing

in a more coherent and confident manner.

Marwan Ma'touq gave Jordan a 15-14 lead with a three pointer, however from then on, the Saudis adopted a tight full court press defence and converted many loose balls to lead 33-23, before ending the first half 36-25.

They continued to expand the gap to 41-26 before Jordan's new younger lineup of players, including Walid Badran and Jihad Saliba, succeeded in somewhat narrowing the gap.

Jordan's undisputed star of the match, Marwan Saeedi carried the burden of defensive and offensive rebounding in the absence of key guard Naser Bushnaq, who stayed behind in Amman because of an aggravated ankle

Sacedi scored, followed by a three-pointer by Saliba and two more baskets by Saeedi as the scoreboard showed the Saudis leading 48-41.

However, the first minutes of the second half were the only period when the Jordanian players seemed to be playing for a win. Saudi Arabia again applied a tight de-fence, as Saeedi was the only one scoring for Jordan alongside Saliba. All-time greats Murad and Hilal Barakat or Samir Murqos and threepoint experts Matouq and Yousef Zaghloul were well below their usual level. They

The Saudis led 59-46 and 65-51 before winning the match 69-53 on the opening day of the 17th Asian Basketball Championship.

were depending on individual

Jordan next play Pakistan Sunday in another Group A

Group B includes South Korea, the Philippines, Singapore, and the United Arab

Group C includes Japan. Iran, Hong Kong, and In-donesia, while Taiwan, N. Korea, Kuwait, Malaysia and Bangladesh are in Group D. The top two teams from each group will qualify for the second round, where the four winning teams will compete for the title and top four

pete for the fille and for four positions and the lasers will play for 5-8th playes.

The Jordanian team will have to win the dext two matches against Bakistan and Thailand and hope that Saudi Arabia lose to the saudi another team in order to have the chance to move to the the chance to move to the second round.

Jordan had finished eighth among 15 countries in the 1983 championships in Hong Kong. In 1985 in Malaysia, they finished sixth, and in 1991 in Japan they finished eighth.

At the moment it seems all hopes for an advanced standing in the current championships have almost faded

Meanwhile, in other matches Taiwan beat Kuwait 76-65; North Korea overcame Malaysia 75-70; Thailand beat Pakistan 91-70 and the United Arab Emirates scored a 74-70 victory over the Philippines.

Ivanov retires after world weightlifting title win

MELBOURNE (R) — Bulgarian Olympic champion Ivan Ivanov picked up his fourth title with a world record of 277.5 kg in the new 54-kg class on the first day of the World Weightlifting Championships and then said he was retiring.

Ivanov, 22, won the title at the new weight on his last lift of the competition, but told reporters he was retiring from weightlifting to spend more time with his wife and son.

"I feel very tired. I want a break from weightlifting and spend more time with my family. But maybe after a long break I might change my mind," Ivanov said. The gold medallist in Barce-

lona last year in the old 52-kg class said there were now many good lifters in his division. "I am not scared of the opposition. I like competition, but there is so much pressure on me before the competition this is what I don't like," the diminutive Bulgarian said.

The International Weightlifting Federation (IWF), which also counts on Olympic gold as a world title, changed the weight divisions at the beginning of the year in an effort to clean up the sport, as many previous world records were believed to be drug-aided.

Ivanov was closely contested by Turkey's Halil Mutlu who was leading the lightest division in the 65th men's championships until Ivanov cleared 157.5 kg on his third jerk to set up his world record.

Mutlu, who finished fifth at the 1992 Olympics, said he was disappointed with his perform-"I was so confident I would Mutlu, 20, known as the

win the world championship,

but it was not my day," Mutlu

"tiny Turk," equalled the 275 kg that he lifted to win the world junior titles earlier this year, which was also the previous heaviest lift in the category this year.

Ivanov, who has never won the

snatch competition in any of his world title wins could only manage a 120.0 kg lift in the China's Yang Bin won the

snatch with a best lift of 122.5 kg, but still missed out on a medal, coming fourth behind South Korea's Ko Kwang-Ku, who picked up the bronze.

Organisers were embarassed that they could not raise the South Korean flag for Kwang-

tion, which was stolen along with 20 other flags after Thursday night's opening ceremony.

Mystery surrounded the withdrawal of world champion Guan Hong from China in the women's 46-kg class, which was won by Taiwan's Nan-Mei Chu with a world record 152.5 kg in the new division.

Organisers said Hong didn't show for the weigh-in, but may compete in Saturday's 50-kg

The Chinese women were expected to make a clean sweep of the women's titles. after winning in all nine divisions at the last World Championships.

Taiwan also picked up silver with Shiu-Fen Yu lifting 147.5 kg. Satomi Saito from Japan took bronze with the same total as Yu, but needed more attempts.

Sabatini advances to Philadelphia quarterfinals

PHILADELPHIA (R) -Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina advanced to the quarterfinals of the \$750,000 Virginia Slims. of Philadelphia with a 6-4, 6-2 victory over 21-ranked Lindsay Davenport.

Sabatini, the fourth seed, will face unseeded Amy Frawho upset seventh-s Mary Pierce Thursday 7-6 (11-Amanda Coetzer, seeded

eighth, defeated qualifier Ann Henricksson, 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7-5) and will face top-seed Steffi Graf.

The other quarterfinal pits second-seed Conchita Martinez and ninth-seed Natalia Unseeded Kimberly Po, who upset sixth-seed Helena Suko-

va in the first round, beat

doubles partner Marianne Werdel and will face Zina Garrisona, who defeated Lori McNeil 6-3, 6-1. Sabatini has not won a tournament since the Italian Open in May of last year.

Although she has reached at least the semifinals of nine tournaments this year. Guillermo Vilas, a former

Australian, French and U.S. Open champion has been coaching Sabatini for the last month. "I feel more confident with

my game," Sabatini said after defeating Davenport. Now I go

into a match with a plan, and I feel more relaxed. We're working on me being more

Sabatini used a service break at love in the seventh game to take the first set from Davenport, who had defeated her in March at the Virginia Slims of Flonda.

In the second set, she broke Davenport in the first game, then won the next four games to take control.

Frazier, who took six months off from the tour this year, matched the hard-hitting Pierce stroke for stroke. Frazier came back from a 2-5

deficit to force a first-set tieb-

reak, which she won on her fourth set point when she forced Pierce into a backhand error. Pierce, ranked 15th, re-

bounded in a second set that featured seven service breaks. but could not hold off Frazier. "Any win, I feel, is a good

win, because everyone is so good now, said the 21-year-old Frazier, whose ranking has dropped from a high of 15 in 1991 to its current 53. "I'm taking each match, each point, one at a time. I

haven't even looked to see who I'm playing next.' Meanwhile Graf will face

Zuereva in the opening round next week as the No. 1 seed begins her quest for her first

Virginia Slims Championships title since 1989.

Ku during the medal presenta-

Monica Seles, who has won the season-ending tournament at Madison Square garden the last three years, has not played since she was stabbed by a spectator during a tournament in Hamburg, Germany, on pril 30.

The week-long Virginia Slims Championship begins Monday.

Second seeded in the 16player field is Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, who will more than likely play Helena Sukova in the first round. Sukova could be replaced in the \$3.5 million tournament by McNeil if McNeil wins this week's Virginia Slims of Philadelphia.

Other first-round matches will pit third-seeded Martina Navratilova against Natalie Tauziat, No. 4 Conchita Martinez against Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere, No. 5 Gabriela Sabatini against Marya Pierce, No. 6 Mary Joe Fernandez against Amanda Coetzer, No. 7 Jana Novotna against Zina Garrison Jackson

In a separate development, the women's Tennis Association (WTA) has hired a German lawyer to try to overturn the suspended sentence of the man who stabbed Seles.

"Our players were outraged by the decision made in the Germany court, not only because of Monica, but also because of their concern for worldwide security measures," Gerard Smith, WTA executive director and chief executive officer, said Thursday.

'Clearly the court's decision sends a terrible message with wide-ranging impact...," Smith

Gsuenter Parche was convicted of stabbing Seles in the back during a tournament in Hamburg on April 30.

However, Judge Elke Bosse gave Parche a two-year suspended sentence and released him for time served. Explaining the mild sentence, she siad she believed Parche's claim that he only wanted to slightly hurt Seles and not kill her.

In a statement announcing the hiring of Hamburg lawyer Hajo Wandscheider, the WTA said its basic interest is to see what the suspended sentence is revised and that Parche's punishment match "the viciousness and lawlessness of

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Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 5:00, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Constitution does not call for change Israel demands of cabinet after polls — Majali

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Friday said the decision on the change or reshuffle of government, following the Parliamentary elections held on Nov. 8, rests with His Majesty King Hussein, saying that neither the National Charter nor the Constitution stipulates that the government should

resign after elections. In an interview with the London-based Middle East Television Centre, Dr. Majali said once the Parliament convenes, and a speaker is elected. the government will ask the House for a vote of confidence. If it wins, then it will go ahead with its responsibilities. but if it doesn't secure the vote of confidence then it has to

resign, allowing for a new gov-emment to be formed. Dr. Majali said elections were held as scheduled because the King wanted them to

be held on time. The King has taken the decision not to put off the polls after consulting with the gov-ernment, he said. The request to postpone elections was made by some political parties which thought that the post 1967 Palestinian displaced persons might opt to go back home following the signature

SARAJEVO (K) — Muslim

gunners attacked the United Nations headquarters town of

Kiseljak Friday in a new thrust

against their Croat foes in cen-

dead in an artillery barrage on the Croat stronghold 30

kilometres west of Sarajevo,

where Croatian and Bosnian

government representatives

were discussing ways to stem

The Bosnian Croat news

agency Habena said the milit-

ary hospital in Kiseljak

appealed for blood supplies as

the town rocked under a con-

certed attack by the 3rd and

6th corps of the Muslim-led

Kiseljak is the headquarters

of the United Nations Protec-

tion Force (UNPROFOR) in

Bosnia and was chosen be-

cause it has been relatively

unscathed by the 19-month

The U.N. base was not en-

dangered by the latest shelling

the fighting.

Bosnian army.

civil war.

Five people were reported

in Washington last September of the Palestinian-Israeli declaration of principles.

Dr. Majali said democracy is not new to Jordan. It has started long time ago and not just four years ago or upon the formation of political parties. as some might think.

"Parties have always been allowed, provided that they act in accordance with the laws in force in Jordan. He pointed out that the reason for not licensing political parties before the enactment of political parties law was that parties were loyal to alien powers and were receiving financial support from abroad, and were

targetting the regime." He said that the adoption of the National Charter and the enactment of the political parties law have organised the formation of such parties. The law stipulates that parties should have loyalty to Jordan and does not receive any financial support from abroad, he said. He said that if it is established that a certain party is receiving support from abroad,

Commenting on the Palesti-nian Israeli declaration of Principles. Dr. Majali said the most

Bosnian army attacks

UNPROFOR headquarters

but a mortar exploded 100

Captain Nils Pedersen said

metres from it on Thursday.

by telephone that shelling by

both sides could be heard to

the north of the base and that a

large number of tanks belong-

ing to the Croat Defence

Council (HVO) had been seen

Habena's casualty toll.

He was unable to confirm

Habena said the Bosnian

The Muslims pressed their

offensive although a member

of Bosnia's collective presiden-

cy said on Thursday that

attacks on Croat enclaves in

central Bosnia would stop as

"an expression of our concern

for the population and the

to coincide with peace talks on

Friday in Sarajevo between

Croatian Foreign Minister

Mate Granic and Bosnian

Prime Minister Haris Silaidzic.

The ceasefire was supposed

good will of our army."

Croat villages of Otigosce, Pobrede and Brestovsko were

on the move.

also attacked.

will be taken against it.

the necessary legal measures

important thing in it is that it ensured the recognition by Israel and the West of the unity of the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied Palestinian territories.

Dr. Maiali added that negotiations with Israel should be based on the agenda the two countries have signed.

On Jordan's relations with Arab countries, Dr. Majali said those relations have always been "good," saying that Jordan has always sought to achieve Arab solidarity. "Jordan's stand during the Gulf crisis was clear, but it was misread by some Arab brethren, and by the West in particular," he said. He added that the Jordanian leadership. government and people have always been against occupation, and that they have sought an inter-Arab solution to the Gulf crisis. "But Jordan's posi-tion was misunderstood," he

Dr. Majali said Jordan has extended its hands to Arab Gulf countries "with all honesty and has received encouraging responses from Oatar and the United Arab Emirates. He voiced hope that relations with Saudi Arabia and Kuwait will also improve.

Muslims and Croats, allied

against Serbs earlier in the conflict, are fighting bitterly

for territory in central Bosnia

where a string of Croat towns

UNPROFOR spokesman

Idesbald van Biesebroeck said

the attack on Kiseljak began in

earnest on Thursday when

fighting turned the bustling

trade centre into a ghost town.

used to a comparatively nor-

mal existence as war raged

round them, took to under-

Mr. Biesebroeck told repor-

ters the HVO had launched an

offensive on Thursday against

the Muslims between Fojnica

and Bakovici west of Kiseljak.

in this area," he added.

casualties at Bakovici.

"The situation is very tense

Thirty Croat mortar rounds

exploded within 50 metres of a

Muslim hospital for mental pa-

tients and seriously injured

ground shelters.

Civilians, who have become

have been overrun recently.

PLO condemn killing of settler lication of the arrests and in-

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel demanded Friday the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) publicly condemn the killing of a Jewish settler by five members of Yasser Arafat's Fatch faction who contended they acted without the group's knowledge.

The army's announcement of the Fateh link - even if indirect - to the Sept. 29 killing of Haim Mizrahi was a political blow to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, on an official visit to the United States.

He has repeatedly cited Fateh's adherence to a pledge not to attack Israelis as proof PLO Chairman Arafat is a peace partner who can be Lifting censorship of news of

the detentions, the army said Mr. Rabin ordered Israeli negotiators at autonomy talks with the PLO to express Israel's severe displeasure over the killing.

"I am stunned by this news," said Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer. "There is no forgiving this... the one thing the PLO needs to do is to come out now with the strongest possible condemnation — otherwise we have a problem."

The army said the men, whom it identified as Fateb members, contended under interrogation they had acted on their own initiative when they stabbed and kidnapped Mizrahi as he was buying eggs in an Arab village in the occupied West Bank.

"It was made clear (to senior PLO delegate Nabil Shaath) tht this act cannot be tolerated from our standpoint and requires a public condemnation from the highest relevant levels of the PLO, along with steps to be taken to prevent a recurrence," the army said in a statement.

The army had originally blamed the killing on the militant fundamentalist Hamas group, which had claimed responsibility. One of the detainees, the

army said, suffered a brain haemorrhage while in custody and the circumstances were being investigated. Palestinian sources said he was beaten during interrogation. In the statement, the army

said the Shin Bet secret police and the military had recently uncovered the alleged guerrilla cell in the Ramallah area, north of Jerusalem. Military censors barred pub-

carried out this attack," charged Uri Ariel, general secretary of the settler's council. Mr. Rabin met a delegation of settlers on Wednesday in a

bid to calm protests.

vestigation for several days.

The right-wing opposition

Rafael Eitan, head of the

far-right Tsomet Party, called

for Mr. Rabin's immediate re-

turn from the United States.

us when he told us that Hamas

"Rabin deliberately lied to

demanded the autonomy

agreement now be tom up.

"The negotiations must be stopped," Mr. Ariel said. National Religious Party leader Zevulun Hammer said: 'Rabin's lies have been exposed. He claimed he was negotiating with sheep but he's dancing with wolves.'

Delegation chief General Amnon Shahak had voiced during autonomy talks with the PLO "Israel's displeasure, particularly since the killing was committed by Fateh people, violating the commitment of the PLO head to stop acts of terrorism by his organisation, a spokesman said.

'General Shahak explained clearly.... that Israel will not tolerate such acts.

"This murder demands a public condemnation from the highest PLO oficials who must give a pledge that such acts will not be repeated," the statement said. The five, caught near

Ramallah "several days ago," had confessed to the killing which took place without Fateh leaders being informed, according to the spokesman. They acted on their own initiative and without orders,'

he said in a statement.
The PLO ordered Fatch militants to halt all attacks on Israelis following the auton-

omy deal.
"The PLO renounces the use of terrorism and other acts of violence and will assume responsibility over all PLO elements and personnel in order to assure their compliance, prevent violations and discipline violators," .Mr. Arafat wrote in a letter to Mr. Rabin on Sept. 9.

One of the five captured men, who all lived near Ramallah, had led soldiers to an arms cache on the West Bank where Mizrahi's own gun had been

hidden, the spokesman said. Two worked on the poultry farm from where Mizrahi was kidnapped.



border guards closing Jerusalem Old City's Damascus Gate after the stabbing of an Israeli soldier by a Palestinian youth (AFP photo)

One of the five, who made up an armed Fateh cell but were not named, had been hospitalised with a head injury. An inquiry was underway into the circumstances, the spokesman added.

The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, which opposes the autonomy agreement, claimed responsibility for the killing.

Meanwhile soldiers arrested Friday four members of the Hawks, Fateh's armed wing on the Gaza Strip, Palestinian sources said. They were caught after a shootout at Bureij reThe army had removed a dozen of the 50 Hawks from its wanted list two weeks ago. Also Friday a teenage Muslim fundamentalist plunged a knife into an Israeli building contractor at the Erez crossing

victim.

Soldiers shot and wounded a Palestinian trying to get out from the Gaza Strip through the Nahal Oz crossing, military

into Gaza, police said,
Police caught the 18-yearold, who sought revenge for
the shooting dead of his friend at the same spot on Oct. 31, but only lightly wounded his

Israel, PLO bound by Dec. 13 deadline — Shahal

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel will have to abide by the Dec. 13 deadline for the start of withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and Jericho, Police Minister Moshe Shahal said

"There is no choice but to abide by the schedules," Mr. Shahal told the Jerusalem Post newspaper.

The Sept. 13 autonomy agreement does not grant either Israel or the PLO the right to delay, he said.

"The accord is not built to allow the possibility of saying... wait a minute, we're

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin ordered the Israeli negotiators to meet the deadline before he left overnight Wednesday for a 10-trip to the United States, according to

Mr. Shahal.

However, Mr. Rabin himself has previously warned that the deadline will be broken and other Israeli officials have suggested more time will be The talks have stumbled

over Israel's proposal to maintain troops on the Gaza Strip to protect the 4,000 Jewish settlers there. The Palestinians want a minimal presence, although the accord stipulates that Israel is responsible for the security of settlers.

Under their declaration of principles, the two sides are to reach an interim agreement by Dec. 13 on the withdrawal and handover of power for education, health, social welfare, direct taxation and tourism.

Withdrawal is to be completed within four months and elections to an autonomy body follow in July.

involvement in two massacres of civilians, and Nosa Igiebor, editor of Tell magazine in Nigeria. Government forces have attacked Tell, arrested. Igiebor and other editors and confiscated thousands of copies of the magazine.

ROME (R) - Pope John Paul returned to the Vatican F day after spending a night in hospital for a dislocated shoulder. The 73-year-old Pontiff walked out of Rome's Policlinico Gemelli private hospital at 0921 GMT and stepped into a limousine that drove him to the Vatican. The Pope injured his shoulder when he tripped on the hem of his white robe and fell during a Vatican audience Thursday, A Vatican statement Thursday said doctors gave the Pope a general anaesthetic before doctors reset his dislocated right shoulder. He was kept in hospital overnight for observation. The Pope tripped and fell as he descended three steps from the Papais throne after addressing delegates of the Rome-based Food

exaggerated

SYDNEY (AFP) - Embar-

rassed Australian broadcasting stations were forced Friday to quickly retract "unconfirmed"

Crown Prince urges PLO to cooperate

(Continued from page 1)

among the faithful, the descendants of Abraham, so that peace can prevail among them and in the whole region," he added.

Commenting on the Parliamentary elections held Monday, the King said he was totally satisfied with the re-sults. "Jordanians of various origins and roots took part in the elections and they did not let me down," he added.

On whether the elections represented vote on the peace process, the King said that the peace process started under the previous Parliament and a national congress had endorsed Jordan's decision to participate in the Madrid peace conference in 1991.

"Therefore, the new Parliament and the government are bound to participate in drawing up the course of action for the coming stage, noting that the elections represented a new step towards democracy.

said King Hussein.

On the participation in the eneral elections by Jordanians of Palestinian origin, and the impact of that on the demands for the fulfilment of Palestinian refugees and displaced peoples right of return or compensation, the King said that that participation in the elections does not weaken the Palestinians' rights to return or to demand compensation.

"We were bound to hold the elections in order to continue building the foundations of democracy while the Palestinians, whether present in Jordan or elsewhere, will continue to have the right to demand their rights," added King Hus-

Describing the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship as unique, King Hussein said the relationship was influenced by attempts to portray Jordan's supportive stand of the Palestinians and their rights on their national soil as "Jordanian

By signing the Israeli-

Jordanian agenda, the King ing the Palestinians to attain

that ended in failure.

with Israel.

with Jordanian issues. On the future Palestinian-

Jordanian relationship, the King said this would be left for the people to decide in their own free will and therefore any talk about a deal now would be premature and could lead to a situation resembling previous experiments in the Arab World

Stressing that Jordan would continue to support the Palestinians, King Hussein said that the Kingdom has shouldered heavy responsibilities si..ce the 1967 war.

said, Jordan had aimed at helptheir rights as well as dealing

He also noted that in his meetings with the Egyptian leadership following the 1967 war, Jordan and Egypt agreed to do whatever was to be done to regain control of the occupied Palestinian land. He said that Egypt and Jordan then agreed that there should be no separate peace agreements

Islamist, leftist deputies likely to form 'vocal' bloc ternal issues, these will be of mately leads to improvement."

(Continued from page 1)

Democratic Party (JPDP) fielded six candidates. The JDPP, Bassam Haddadin, won a seat in Zarqa.

"Opponents of the peace process have been ousted with the help of the one-person. one-vote amendment to the Election Law and now the way is clear for the government to sign a peace agreement with Israel with parliamentary approval," said the JDPP spokesman on condition of

anonymity.
While the spokesman for the leftist party conceded that "there will be some opposition from non-party deputies on inminor political importance and will not upset the government priorities: the peace process and the implementation of the economic adjustment programme."

Not only political observers and commentators were sceptical of the 12th Parliament's ability to oppose government policies on major issues, however. "The voices of opposition in this Parliament will be much

less and may contribute to a lack of creative dialogue," says Dr. Arwa Al Ameri, who heads the independent Centre for Women's Studies. "There are not only less members of the Muslim Brotherhood in Parliament but many very progressive voices that created dialogue in Parliament, have lost," says Dr. "To have large numbers of

deputies of the same political trend (traditionalists) in the Lowest House may lead to mediocrity because they will not be able to challenge government proposals and poli-cies. Their numbers are large enough to enable the government to pass any amendment or law without much opposi-

Such a situation, says Dr. Ameri may "lack the enriching process of dialogue that ulti-

Dissent, says Dr. Ameri, "is not a luxury, it is a necessity for constant improvement and thought." The one-person, one-vote amendment to the Election Law forced Jordanians to "fail

back on traditions of tribal politics which are not conducive to democratic development where people vote on issues and policies regardless of clan, sectarian or regional affiliations," Dr. Ameri said. The performance of the cri-

tical forces in Parliament remains to be seen but the ability. of the existing bloc of 30 to create a lively dialogue is almost certain.

Rabin: Talks beyond point of no return

(Continued from page I)

weeks." He said no decision had been made about when Secretary of State Christopher would return to the Middle East, but added that Washington maintained ongoing contacts with Syria.

He said he spoke with President Hafez Al Assad "from time to time" and that the dialogue would continue.

Some U.S. experts and dipiomats have suggested that Mr. Clinton might become personally involved in the process. with talk of a Clinton tour of the Middle East in January.

According to this hypothesis. Mr. Christopher would discuss the idea with the Syrian president during a visit to the Middle East after a European tour early in December.

Mr. Clinton saluted progress in the Israel-Jordan talks but said peace between Israel and Syria was "essential" to any lasting peace in the region. He said there would be no agreement signed between Israel and Jordan during Mr. Rabin's

current visit. Mr. Clinton said he would ask Congress to guarantee loans to Israel to help it "de-fray the cost of peace." He also promised U.S. help in maintaining Israel's "qualitative" security edge over potential

Mr. Rabin thanked Mr. Clinton, saying, "thank you and God bless you," for the U.S. leader's pledge to keep U.S. aid at current levels. Mr. Clinton said he would

explore additional loan guarantees and unspecified other assistance" in talks with Congress to help Israel cope with the economic turmoil caused by the peace agreement with Palestinians.

Mr. Clinton said the United States was negotiating to make 'a number of planes" available to the Israeli military but would not say if the package. as expected, would include advanced F-15 fighter jets. Mr. Rabin was to meet with

Defence Secretary Les Aspin

on Monday to discuss the milit-

ary package and Mr. Clinton

said an announcement was

likely in the near future.

"You have gracefully told me and all the Israelis of your decision to strengthen the security of Israel, most specifically your decision to continue the level of security assistance ... the supply of advanced aircraft." Mr. Rabin said in remarks that suggested the F-15 agreement was virtually sea-

Mr. Rabin said: "We believe that the substantial common agenda just concluded with Jordan, and further efforts made since, can serve as the basis for a major development on the road to the treaty of peace."

"We also look forward to achieve results in the negotiations with Syria and Lebanon, he added.

Mr. Clinton also said Mr. Rabin briefly raised the case of convicted spy Jonathan Pol-lard, serving a life sentence for giving U.S. military secrets to Israel. Mr. Rabin has asked that Mr. Pollard's sentence be cut to 10 years, and Mr. Clinton said he had asked the Justice Department to review the record and make a recommendation

Polls results in 3rd district

(Continued from page 1)

that of the Jordanians and Tslamists.

Jordanians of Palestinian origin, in reaction to the Gaza-Jericho agreement and the conflicting official reports about whether Jordanians of Palestinian origin can vote here or not, also wanted to ensure that their representative is in Parliament and part of the legislative process which will affect their future. Their votes, in their majority,

Mr. Nabulsi, in the final analysis, only received the votes of those who still believed that democratic ideals and good performance in Parliament stood above purely nationalistic concerns. They, however, only numbered about half of the total number of votes that either Mr. Abu Ragheb or Mr.

went to Mr. Masri.

Masri gained. A large measure of the votes Mr. Nabulsi, at first glance, would have had in these elections, were those of the Christians and leftists. But a closer look at the man of candidates who were contesting the Christian and Circassian seats suggested that Mr. Nabulsi could lose to either of the women candidates for the Circassian seat, or to one of the leftists con-

testing the Christian seat. Analysts believe that the race for the Christian seat in the Third District was obviously affected by the parailel struggle witnessed over the Muslim seats. Khalil Haddadin, who had the largest politically-committed base won, even though he only secured around 1,600 votes.

The main contestants for this seat, originally, were Mr. Haddadin, who represented the Arab Baath Socialist Party, Mr. Yacoub Zayyadin, the Jordan Communist Party and Mr. Fakhri Kawar, an independent leftist. The almost similar orientation of the three candidates made it difficult for the non-committed leftists to cast their votes in favour of one candidate, therefore dividing the vote among the three and a fourth candidate — Suhail Sharaiha - who was not a close competitor but nevertheless took

a share of the leftist vote. Mr. Kawar would have needed the support of his allies in 1989, the Islamists, who were not willing to take chances with their votes and opted to give full support to Mr. Keilani. The race, therefore, re-

mained between the two candidates with sizeable political party support. Mr. Haddadin's chances only im-proved after Mr. Walid Abdul Hadi, who initially contested the Muslim seat, withdrew from the race. Mr. Apdul Hadi, who was also a pan-Arabist, had a solid 1,000 vote support from his party. many of these votes went to Mr. Haddadin, giving him the necessary edge to win the seat.

Circassian candidate Mansour Murad, who in 1989 secured 8,747 votes with the support of "Palestinian" and leftist voters, this time lost both blocs, with the Palestinian votes favouring Mr. Masri and the leftist votes going to different Christian candidates. His alliance with the Islamists in the 11th Parliament did not pay off as expected because of the struggle over the Islamist scat.

The obvious winner from these interconnected forces in the Third District was Toujan Faisal, who will now enter history books as the first female deputy in the Jordanian Lower House of Parliament.

Ms. Faisal, whose campaign picked up only in the last week of electioneering. collected all the disgruntled votes left over from the race for the three Muslim seats as well as support from voters who wanted a woman to reach Parliament.

Her biggest support came from a good number of Christian voters who had already decided that they wanted to influence the choice of Muslim deputies representing this district.

Mr. Nabulsi had won large support among liberals and Christians after he led a campaign, in the 11th Parliament. against a proposal by Muslim Brotherhood's parliamentary bioc to segregate public and private schools. He also enjoyed the support of prominent Christian personalities and church leaders who campaigned for Mr. Nabulsi as early as 1989.

Most of the liberals and Christians shifted support to Ms. Faisal, who was campaigning courageously against Islamic fundamentalism.



contributions to press freedom NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. media mogul Ted Turner and five foreign journalists were honoured by the Committee to. Protect Journalists in recogni, tion of their contributions to press freedom. Turner, the founder of Cable News Network, won the Burton Benjamin Memorial Award for CNN's revolutionary impact on what Turner calls the democratisation of information." A Press Freedom Award also went to Long Doan, the son of imprisoned Vietnamese journalist Doan Viet Hoat. The elder Doan has been held in a detention camp for three years because he edited a newsletter that published a variety of viewpoints. The other award winners were recognised for "providing independent news coverage and commentary despite arrest physical attack and threats to themselves and their families. the Committee to Protect Journalists said in a statement. They are: Veran Matic. editorin-chief of Radio B92, a news and music station in Belgrade.

the capital of Serbia: Omar

Belhouchet, editor of El

Watan in Algeria. Belhouchet

was recently sentenced to a year in jail for an article that

questioned the government's

handling of a terrorist bomb-

ing. He is free on appeal:

Ricardo Uceda, editor of Si

magazine in Peru. Si recently uncovered evidence of military

Pope leaves hospital after hurting shoulder

and Agriculture Organisation

Reports of Queen Mum's death greatly

reports of the death of Britain's queen mother after discovering she was very much alive. The reports, which sparked rumours prompting ar i official denial by Governor General Bill Hayden, were carried on 11 a.m. (0200 GMT) news bulletins by Australian Broadcasting Corp. (ABC) Radio. 2UE Radio and the Channel Seven Television Station. A spokesman for Channel Seven said the reports stemmed from a dummy run by Britain's Sky Television sta-tion, which had apparently been doing a routine check of an obituary item on the queen mother. The spokesman said it seemed the footage had been seen by an employee of Sky who assumed it was going to air and rang a contact at a radio station in Australia, as a result of which it was broadcast. by 2UE. Channel Seven acknowledged the error and apologised shortly after its bulletin started, admitting it had erred in basing its report solely on a 2UE news report. A 2UE spokesman said they also had been "let down" by one of their affiliate stations which had alerted them to the "news tip." A statement by ABC Radio said it had broadcast the report as being "unconfirmed", but the story had been quickly withdrawn and a correction broadcast. Running the story was an error of judgement," it said, "Steps have been taken to ensure such a lapse is not repeated."